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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIII.—NO. 10. WEEKLY EDITION. JANUARY 15, 1876.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 6, 1876.

SENATE.

The Senate met at ten o'clock A. M., Lieutenant Governor Latta in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Paxton.

The following House resolution was read:

Resolved, If the Senate concur, That the business of the General Assembly remaining unfinished at its adjournment, March 18, 1875, be taken up at the stage which it had reached, and disposed of in regular order.

Mr. Albright offered an amendment, which was adopted, that a joint committee of three from each House be appointed to report upon the question in dispute. Messrs. Strang, Lawrence and Albright were appointed such committee. The resolution, as amended, was then adopted.

Mr. Woodward offered the following resolution, which was ordered referred to a special committee of five, to be appointed by the Chair:

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Senate, at the beginning of each session of the Senate, and immediately after its organization, shall place in a box the name of each Senator, written on a separate slip of paper; that he it on proceeding in succession of the Senate, to draw from said box, one at a time, said slips of paper, and as each is drawn he shall announce the name of the Senator upon it, who shall choose his seat for that session; *provided*, that before said drawing shall commence, the President of the Senate shall assign every seat to be vacated and shall see that every seat continues vacated until it is selected under his order; and that every seat, after having been selected, shall be deemed vacant if left unoccupied before the calling of the roll is finished. The resolution does not apply to the present session.

Mr. Boyer offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be directed to communicate with all possible dispatch, for the purpose of fixing the quota of the several districts of the Commonwealth, and especially of the districts of Trouteville.

A communication was read, in connection with the foregoing resolution, from a patriotic resident of Clearfield county, as follows:

"I was surprised to hear of a rumor that our Government wants to recruit 100,000 men for the Centennial at Philadelphia. Should there be any truth in the matter, I would like to organize a company. Please give me the facts in the matter, and, if correct, a few pointers as how to proceed."

Mr. Wood, of Allegheny, said this was a very serious matter, and perhaps the peace of this State depends on how we act. He moved to amend in place of Mr. Boyer's resolution, the following:

That the quota of Troutville be 100,000 and that we send down the flag of the Union and tell them we stand by the law and the appropriation. The resolution was withdrawn.

Mr. Strang offered an amendment to a resolution providing for an adjournment until Tuesday morning at half-past eleven o'clock, so as to make it concurrent, which was adopted.

Appointment, of New Brighton, appointed Notary Public by the Governor, was confirmed.

E. Shannon was confirmed commissioner of deeds, to reside at Austin, Nevada.

The Committee of Conference to consider the order in which legislation shall be taken up, submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That no bill, resolution or other business pending at the close of the session of 1875 shall be considered at this session, unless again introduced. The report of the Committee was agreed to by all the members.

A concurrent resolution from the House, instructing our Senators in Congress and requesting our Representatives to urge the immediate repeal of the law passed at the closing hour of the last session, increasing the rate of postage on third class matter, was adopted, when the Senate adjourned until Tuesday next.

HOUSE.

The House met at 11 A. M. Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Clarke, of the Presbyterian church.

The Senate amendments to the House resolution in relation to the unfinished business of last session, were read and concurred in, and, in pursuance of the resolution, Messrs. Parker, Faunce and Mutzell were appointed the committee on the part of the House.

Mr. Faunce offered a resolution, which was agreed to, providing for the printing of 8,000 copies of the Governor's message in English and 1,000 copies in German for the use of the House.

Mr. Richardson offered the following, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That in the adoption of the Concurrent resolution of Saturday, offered by the gentleman from Butler (Mr. Lusk) this House was governed by no spirit of factiousness, ill will or desire to dictate or control the action of the Senate, but for the purpose of obtaining at the earliest possible opportunity official information from the Senate as to the position it would occupy upon the question of commencing legislation, in order that a definite conclusion could be arrived at in regard to any differences existing between the two bodies, believing, as we do, that legislation should be proceeded with harmoniously and, for the sake of economy to the State, in the most expeditious manner possible.

The Senate concurrent resolution, providing for the adjournment of both Houses until Tuesday next at 11½ A. M., was read and concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Parker was appointed teller on the part of the House to count the votes for Governor. On motion of Mr. Reigard, all resolutions relative to printing documents were referred to the Committee on Printing.

The resolution of Mr. Vogtes, submitted yesterday, for an increase of the number of members of committees not exceeding twenty-five, was agreed to.

Mr. Nisley offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee on the part of the House to act in conjunction with a similar committee on the part of the Senate, to visit and inspect the fishway at Columbia and the hatching house at Donegal, providing the same is done without expense to the State. The resolution was postponed and subsequently withdrawn.

Mr. Bunnell, of Crawford county, offered the following, which was agreed to, the rules having been suspended for its consideration:

Resolved, That the Auditor General and State Treasurer be requested to furnish this House information as to what taxes, now going to the sinking fund, can be diverted to the general fund, at the same time leaving the resources of the sinking fund in such condition that the interest on the public debt and the principal as the same promptly paid as they become due; and also information as to the resources of the revenue.

Mr. Foster, of Schuylkill, moved an amendment, by which was adopted, asking what funds were specially devoted to the sinking fund.

Mr. Emrich submitted the following, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That our Senators in Congress be instructed and our Representatives requested to urge the repeal of the law increasing the rates of postage on third class matter.

Mr. Jackson submitted a joint resolution instructing our Senators and Representatives in Congress to vote for the passage of a law to repeal the act of January 4, 1875, which provides for the resumption of specie payments and redemption in coin on and after January 1, 1879, and to make the resolution the special order for Tuesday next, at twelve o'clock noon, was not agreed to—yeas 56, nays 120.

Mr. Morgan, of Monroe, while not in any manner favoring the "Rag Baby," thought the manufacturing and industrial classes of Pennsylvania demanded immediate relief.

Mr. Leech moved to postpone the resolution for the present, which was agreed to.

Mr. Parker, from the joint committee to inquire with reference to the unfinished business of the last session, submitted a report recommending that no bills, resolutions or other business remaining unfinished at the adjournment of the session of 1875, be considered, unless again introduced. The report was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Hubn, of Philadelphia, whose amendment brought about the above result, receives great credit from the members for his pithy, concise argument and the tact he displayed in having the House commence de novo.

Mr. Wendt, of Beaver, offered a resolution that 20,000 copies of the election laws be printed. Referred to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reighard offered a resolution, which was agreed to, for the appointment of a committee of seven to revise the rules of the House for the present session.

The House then adjourned until 11½ o'clock A. M., on Tuesday next.

POLITICAL.

Mississippi.

LAMAR NOMINATED FOR SENATOR.

NEW YORK, January 6.—A special from Jackson, Miss., says Col. Lamar was unanimously nominated by the Democratic caucus for United States Senator, the other candidates withdrawing in his favor.

Union League of America.

NEW YORK, January 6.—The sub-committee of the National Council of the Union League of America met in secret session this afternoon, ex-Governor William A. Newell presiding. The report of the Committee on Amendments to the Constitution was read. It indicated among its provisions the agitation of the school question, the complete separation of Church and State organization, as essential to the success of the Union Republican party, and the removal of the obligation of secrecy hitherto binding on members of the organization. The future proceedings of the Council will be public.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 7, 1876.

Resumption of Specie Payments.

The Committee on Banking and Currency will, on Monday next, take up the question of specie resumption. The basis of their action will be Mr. Hale's resolution to inquire what legislation may be necessary to enable the Government to carry out the provisions of the act of 1875, fixing the date of resumption at January 1, 1879. The resolution proposes to grant the Secretary of the Treasury full power to adopt such measures as will subserve the end in view. The committee expect to be able to report a measure at an early day, perhaps next week. It is now understood that Mr. Blaine will hold his financial speech until that time.

Newspaper Men Restrained.

Speaker Kerr has issued an order debarring the correspondents of the press of the country from the privilege, hitherto possessed, of resorting to the private corridor of the House. At the same time the most notorious lobbyists are allowed the privileges of the floor, and may be seen at all hours of the session conferring with Democratic members. It seems to be the studied effort of the Democrats to throw obstacles in the way of disseminating information among the people and to encourage the infamous operations of the lobby.

The Appropriation Bills.

The Democratic buncomb about forty millions of a reduction in the appropriations has simmered down. The House Committee on Appropriations had a four hours' session to-day and, after a careful general examination of the estimates, it was admitted by the Democratic members that there could be very little, if any, reduction; that the appropriations of the last Congress were down to an economical, and at the same time efficient, administration of the Government. There were also signs of backing water on the army reduction. The representatives from the Mexican and Indian border States will not vote for it, so that there are doubts of even a bill being reported, much less passed. The committee disposed of the Military Academy bill, reducing but about two thousand dollars. The reduction of eighty-seven thousand in the Diplomatic bill is simply the action of the sub-committee. It is not certain that the committee will approve it.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 9, 1876.

Ways and Means Committee Call on the President.

The Committee on Ways and Means yesterday made their usual annual call upon the President. The President, in the course of conversation, said to Mr. Morrison, the Chairman, that he remembered his being at the attack on Fort Donelson. Mr. Morrison commanded an Illinois regiment and was wounded in the arm. The President said that any recommendations he might have to make during the session he would communicate in the usual form.

Also on Secretary Bristow.

The committee then waited upon the Secretary of the Treasury. Here the conversation turned upon finances and taxation. The Secretary said that he favored placing a duty on tea and coffee.

Third Party Foolishness.

A few third-party politicians are in the city trying to drum up their cause. The miserable Liberal failure in 1872 seems to have settled that question. All recalcitrant Republicans have now found their way back into the old lines, or deserted permanently to the enemy.

Randall's Army Reduction.

Randall now says that his army reduction only takes reference to the salaries paid to the higher grades. Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and the other heroes who saved the Union.

Postal Changes in Pennsylvania.

The following postal changes were made during the week ending January 8, 1876:

Letter carriers appointed—Jas. Jones, Jr., pay of Peter C. Hensel to $700 from January 1, 1876.

Re-establishments—Jackson Run, Warren county, route 3120, Cyrus Starrett, Postmaster.

Discontinued—Petroleum Centre, Venango county.

Postmasters appointed—Allen M. Ayres, Canton, Bradford county, *vice* Edwin Newman, removed.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 10, 1876.

In the House, to-day, Mr. Randall stole a march on the Centennial appropriation, by introducing his Amnesty bill. In his desire to protect that arch-rebel Jeff Davis, he overshot the mark. He refused an amendment which Mr. Blaine said was the very essence of legislative function, and the bill failed to receive the necessary two-thirds. Banks and Kelley voted with the Democrats. The introduction of Mr. Blaine's Amnesty bill, now pending, which excludes Jeff Davis, will probably consume several days in discussion. It is conceded that it was a bad move on the part of Randall in not permitting Blaine's amendment, for it only required a majority to vote it down, after which it could have passed. The interposition of the Amnesty bill and the feeling which it has generated, it is feared, will damage the prospects of the Centennial appropriation. The Southern Democrats have been endeavoring to bury the removal of Jeff. Davis' political disabilities out of sight, pledging their support to the Centennial if the Republicans would favor amnesty without exception. It is stated on-night that Pennsylvania Democratic Representatives—Stenger, Tourney and Cochran—will vote against the appropriation, on constitutional grounds. The friends of the measure still feel confident that it will pass.

Thurman's Friends at Work.

Within the past few days there have been several conferences of prominent Eastern and Western Democrats with reference to the future here and certain New York gentlemen, their object being to throw the Eastern candidates for the Presidency, Hendricks and Tilden, overboard and to concentrate on Thurman.

A Democrat's Constitutional Amendment.

Representative O'Brien, of Maryland, has prepared for submission at an early day a constitutional amendment carrying out the idea of Mr. Hendricks' amendment, but taking a wider range, by excluding ministers of the gospel from the right to hold office under the United States, or any State; also prohibiting such ministers from having office in institutions supported in whole or in part by public funds.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 8, 1876.

WEEKLY STATISTICS FROM THE TREASURY.

The Treasury now holds $363,002,962 in bonds to secure the national bank circulation, and $18,626,500 to secure public deposits. United States bonds deposited for circulation, for the week ending to-day, $154,000; United States bonds held for circulation withdrawn for the week ending to-day, $782,700; national bank circulation now outstanding, $343,893,694; of which amount $2,100,360 are gold notes. The internal revenue receipts to-day were $470,724 94; for the month to date, $2,939,342 98. Customs receipts to-day, $88,077 93; for the month to date, $3,221,221 76; for the fiscal year to date, $79,254,699 65. The receipts of national bank notes for redemption for the week ending January 8, 1875, are as follows:

	1875.	1876.
New York	$1,801,000	$1,874,000
Boston	1,228,000	1,481,000
Philadelphia	158,000	140,000
Chicago	26,000	71,000
Cincinnati	26,000	32,000
Miscellaneous	1,038,000	582,000
Total	$3,439,000	$4,181,000

The balances in the United States Treasury to-day, at the hour of closing, were as follows: Special deposit of legal tenders for the redemption of certificates of deposit, $36,755,000; coin (including coin certificates to the amount of $34,241,800), $71,746,145; outstanding legal tenders, $374,827,220; currency, $8,382,000.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 10, 1876.

A WEEKLY LIST OF UNITED STATES PATENTS

issued to the inventors of Pennsylvania and Ohio, for the week ending January 4, 1876. Reported by telegraph expressly for the COMMERCIAL, by A. H. Evans & Co., Patent Solicitors, May building, Washington, D. C.:

PENNSYLVANIA.

W. J. McKee, Pittsburgh—Shoe fastening.
C. Brandtner, Reutlingen—Treadle.
J. Gerlitz, Philadelphia—Weigh scales.
W. H. King, Pittsburgh—Rotary pump.
A. Atkinson, Pittsburgh—Railroad rail joint.
W. H. Key, Philadelphia—Gate latch.
F. Hahn—Lancaster—Jacks for staging ladders.
T. S. Kelly, Philadelphia—Whiffletree bolt.
J. T. Starr, Philadelphia—Adjustable bracket.
H. W. Adams, Philadelphia — Treating leather.
J. G. Powell, Philadelphia—Toy watch (three cases.)
J. Pyatt, Philadelphia—Hoisting apparatus.
E. Ritter, Philadelphia—Paper box.
N. Snyder, Pittsburgh—Glass furnace.
J. Wood, Reading—Spark arrester.
Reissue—J. C. Rohrau, Philadelphia—Water pipes.
H. W. Spang, Reading—Lightning rod.
Trade Mark—Keystone Cellar Company—Philadelphia—Collars and cuffs.
Q. A. Scott, Pittsburgh—Dentifrice.
Q. A. Scott, Pittsburgh—Soap.
A. Scott, Pittsburgh—Soap.
J. Woodwell, Pittsburgh—Saws.
M. H. Snader, Reading—Writing paper, &c.

OHIO.

A. Ball, Canton—Former for metal shapes.
H. Lehman, Cleveland—Barrel plugging machine.
C. Hathewy, Cleveland—Railway transfer table.
H. Howard, Cincinnati—Padding fabrics.
P. Andrew, Cincinnati—Dairy and rendering tank.
J. Ostrander, Cleveland—Rolling nut blanks.
W. H. Richardson, Cincinnati—Spark arrester.
H. M. Wyeth, Newark—Pumps.
Trade Mark—W. J. Griffith, Youngstown—Medical preparation.
Mills, Johnson & Co., Cincinnati—Whisky (nine cases).

XLIV. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 6, 1876.

SENATE.

Mr. MORTON, from the Committee on Privileges and Elections, to which was referred the resolution of Mr. Edmunds in regard to the election of President *pro tempore* of the Senate, made a report, which was ordered to be printed and lie upon the table.

Mr. COOPER said that, as a member of the committee, he was unwilling to let the report go out without placing on the record his dissent from certain portions.

Mr. MERRIMON said he also dissented from so much of the report as favored the power of the Senate to remove the President *pro tempore* of the Senate at will.

The committee agreed, by a vote of five against two, that it is within the constitutional power of the Senate to elect a new President *pro tempore* at the present time, if a majority of Senators so choose. The committee make no recommendation, however, as to the advisability of exercising this power. The report is concurred in by Senators Morton, Wadleigh, Mitchell, Cameron, of Wisconsin, and McMillan, all Republicans. Senators Cooper and Merriman, Democratic, dissent from its conclusions.

The morning business being disposed of, Mr. MORRILL called up the bill introduced by him yesterday to further provide for the redemption of legal tender United States notes, in accordance with existing law, and addressed the Senate.

Mr. MITCHELL presented the petition of A. B. Meacham, praying for compensation for injuries received in the Modoc Indian war, while acting as Chairman of the Peace Commission, and a treaty with the Modoc Indians, under a flag of truce. Referred.

Mr. MORRILL, in the course of his argument, said he thought that by January 1, 1878, the difference between paper and gold would be much less than now, and that, as a forerunner of resumption, it would be well to provide that on and after January, 1878, shall be upon a specie basis, unless otherwise specified. This would give custom our people to the coming change and bring specie into circulation. He denounced the project of redeeming greenbacks with an interconvertible 3.65 per cent. interest-bearing bond, declaring that the scheme was unacceptable to any public or private advantage. He likened it to an offer on the part of the Government to take away all the horses thrown out of employment at the commencement of winter, promising to return them sleek and fat in the spring. He also scouted the proposition to issue more broadcloth, that duties on foreign goods may be here after paid in paper. This would virtually repeal the law of 1862, containing the pledge that the interest on the public debt shall be paid in gold and set apart to pay the public debt. This is regarded by a few who are acting in opposition to the party and down with the tariff, as well as by others who have wholly cut loose from coin, determined to sink or swim with paper money and who by six or seven honest men who really feel that if we show how much we despise gold and how little we care for it at the Custom House, we may bring it down to the same opinion and gold will then at once drop very low in value that all who have it will be in haste to exchange it for paper. With much gravity they point to Russia as the swiftest mode of returning to specie payments. By our flattering declaration that black is white, we are to make the silly bullionists, following their golden calves, to crow in the fable, drop their gold and then, like Æsop's fox, we are to stand ready to snatch it up. If these honest men are not mistaken, they have found a mode of resumption boomerang, which, though sent off in an opposite direction, is to whirl round and at last smite the rock from which will pour a flood of specie metals. I confess to an entire want of faith in the boomerang movement.

He ridiculed at considerable length the idea that we must not only keep and maintain the volume of the currency equal to the wants of trade, but that it must be a non-exportable currency, claiming that that very doctrine was contained in Randall. He also ridiculed the argument, frequently set up, that our only remedy for a currency largely inflated and below par, is to wait until the country grows up to it. The philosopher who waited on the banks for the river to run by, was hardly more profound than this. The bank of paper circulation, with a population of 31,500,000, was $207,802,000. Assuming the standard of health and stability, with a country no larger (unless made larger by the ice of Alaska) as we now see it, with an increase of twenty millions annually, we shall until the country grows up to it we must postpone specie resumption until our population rises to 116,646,401, with a proportionate increase of the wants of trade. It was a great delusion to suppose that contration would benefit the rich and fall heavily upon the poor, while inflation would operate in the opposite direction. It would be much nearer the truth to say that the effect would be strictly the reverse.

He spoke at length against the injustice and the bad policy of inflation, and reviewed the arguments of the inflationists, warmly praised the national banking system and said if the bill was simply creating a currency convertible at par, nearly all their defects would vanish. What we most needed, after specie resumption, to compass it, was a sound currency condition, was more real and absolute capital. All the financial tinkering in the world would not supply it. All cheap experiments for making money plenty without earning it, or without giving anything in exchange for it, would result in a disreputable bankruptcy. The sooner we and the country cannot be invented, but must be earned, the better for the country. A debased currency, he said, in conclusion, was dangerous to public and private expenditures are now the case to-day. He was assigned to a place on the Finance Committee by the vote of the Senate, and every plan he had submitted to extricate the people from the bad system of finance had met with the majority. The bill of last January meant nothing but a party condition of the party that enacted it, and was insufficient to accomplish its end, and regretted to see a great question of the retirement of the paper circulation exhibited by Senators on the other side.

Mr. EDMUNDS inquired who admitted that the act of January last was insufficient to accomplish its end.

Mr. MORRILL said he thought every sensible man had admitted it.

Mr. EDMUNDS did not agree with the Senator [Edmunds] had heard no one admit it.

Mr. SHERMAN read from the last report of the Secretary of the Treasury to show that the bill of January last met the approval of Secretary Bristow.

The question being on referring the bill introduced by Mr. Morrill to the Committee on Finance, it was so referred.

The Senate then, at 4:30 P. M., went into executive session. At 5:15 the doors were reopened and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

Mr. HOPKINS, form the Select Committee on Centennial celebration, reported a bill appropriating $1,500,000 to complete the Centennial buildings and grounds, and to erect suitable buildings for the celebration, one-third of the amount to be paid immediately and the remainder in four monthly installments; provides for the Government exhibit and not be liable for any debt or obligation in connection with the celebration, or for any additional payment. The bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. SCHLECKER offered a resolution for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the increase, progress and murders along the Mexican borders in Texas.

Mr. HOLMAN suggested that the subject should be left to the Committee on Military Affairs. He was opposed to the multiplication of select committees.

Mr. WOOD, of New York, favored the appointment of select committees, inasmuch as Committees on Foreign Affairs and Military Affairs, to which were referred that portion of the President's message in regard to these depredations, could not act jointly on the subject.

Mr. REGAN advocated the resolution, and said the authorities of Texas would not be able longer to restrain the people of that country from taking the law into their own defense—a thing which might be greatly to be deplored, taking into consideration the danger of international complications. He hoped the committee might be charged with the whole question.

Mr. HANCOCK also advocated the resolution, and spoke of the necessity of avoiding war and maintaining peace on the frontier. He spoke of the increase of Mexican marauders to a distance of fifty-seventy-five or one hundred and twenty-five miles into Texas. He was not complaining of the Government of Mexico, for he realized the comparative inability of that Government to preserve order and peace on its borders. The people of Texas were disposed to act with the greatest forbearance toward the Mexicans, but they thought means might be found to afford adequate protection to them.

Mr. HALE opposed reference to a select committee; Mr. MILLS favored the resolution, and Mr. HOLMAN thought it far better and safer that a question like this should go to a regular standing committee of the House, and he made that motion.

Mr. TOWNSEND favored the original resolution.

Mr. JONES, of Kentucky, expressed his surprise that opposition should come from the Democratic side of the House to a vote on a matter of the greatest importance to the people of Texas, and he hoped the resolution would be adopted.

The motion to refer the resolution to a committee was rejected and the resolution adopted.

Mr. BLAINE asked Mr. Randall whether he desired to bring the House to a vote on his Amnesty bill on Monday next.

Mr. RANDALL replied that he did.

Mr. BLAINE then said he had a substitute to offer for it, which he asked to have read and ordered printed. The substitute was read, as follows:

That all persons now under disabilities imposed by the Fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, with the exception of Jefferson Davis, late President of the so-called Confederate States, shall be relieved of such disabilities upon their appearing before any judge of a United States court and taking and subscribing in open court the following oath, to be duly attested and recorded, viz.: "I, A. B., do solemnly swear [or affirm] that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that, to the best of my knowledge and ability, I will faithfully discharge the duties of a citizen of the United States."

The House, at 4:30 P. M., adjourned till Monday next.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 10, 1876.

SENATE.

Senator ALCORN occupied his seat to-day for the first time this session.

Mr. SARGENT presented the petition of 26,615 citizens of California, praying for the anti-polygamy law of 1862 and the Poland bill, that Utah be admitted as a State in the Union. In presenting the petition Mr. SARGENT said he did not concur in the object of the petition, and therefore laid the matter before the Senate as they had requested him to do. Referred.

Mr. THURMAN presented a petition of citizens of Ohio asking a repeal of the Resumption act passed last session, and asking the enactment of a law to provide for the retirement of national bank notes, and to substitute therefor legal tender United States notes, and the issue of a 3.65 convertible bond; the proceeds of the sale of such bonds to be applied first to the redemption of the six per cent., and second to the redemption of the five cent. gold bearing bonds. Referred.

Mr. CONKLING submitted the following:

Resolved, That the compliance with the will of the people, the precedents of history, the best established principles of international law, the precepts of Christian rule and morality, the requirements of the commercial and political intercourse of the United States and taking into consideration the relations existing between the United States and Spain, and that it is desirable that reciprocal agreements of a good understanding between the two peoples may have thereafter been and may be changed by reason of the grave events which for several years have taken place in the Island of Cuba, the President of the United States is and he is hereby authorized and requested to declare and maintain as part of the public law between the Government of Spain and the people of Cuba.

Resolved, That, making this declaration through the usual form of a proclamation, and in order to protect citizens of the United States and merchants and navigators in general from any improper way for want of precise and clear regulations to govern them in this matter, the President of the United States be and he is hereby authorized and requested to place in full operation the same provisions as have been in force during the recent war between her Majesty the Queen of Spain on June 17th, 1861, on the occasion of the outbreak of the civil war in the United States, proclamation to be printed and laid on the table.

Mr. HAMLIN, from the committee on Rules, reported back the resolution submitted by Mr. Edmunds before recess, to adopt the joint rules of the two Houses of Congress of last session, with the recommendation that it be passed, and that the President be notified.

Mr. MORTON moved to postpone the consideration of the twenty-second joint rule.

Pending the motion to postpone Mr. THURMAN, further consideration of the subject was postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. WHITE submitted the following resolution:

Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, That the people of the several States compose, in their highest sovereign capacity as free and independent States, adopted a Federal Constitution and established the Government of the United States as a Confederal Republic, and for the purpose of carrying into effect the objects for which it was formed, delegated to it certain powers and certain rights enumerated in said Constitution, but reserved to the States severally and to the people thereof, all the residuary powers not delegated by the United States by the Constitution nor prohibited by it to the States, ordered to be printed and lie on the table.

Mr. MORRILL (Me.) then suggested to him by several Senators that the report of the Committee on Privileges and Elections in relation to the President *pro tempore* of the Senate, should have been accompanied by a resolution embodying the conclusions of the committee. He therefore submitted the following:

Resolved, That the tenure of a President *pro tempore* of the Senate elected at one session, does not expire at the meeting of Congress next following, but that the Senate may by having appeared to take the chair.

Resolved, That the office of Vice President does not have the effect to vacate the office of President *pro tempore* of the Senate.

Resolved, That the President *pro tempore* of the Senate is held at the pleasure of the Senate.

Resolved, That Hon. Thomas W. Ferry, Senator from Michigan, who was elected President *pro tempore* of the United States Senate, is now President *pro tempore* by virtue of said election and the grace and favor of the Senate.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of executive business, and when the doors were reopened the Senate adjourned.

Mr. MORTON in reply to the question of Mr. Morrill, said he would call up the resolutions submitted by Mr. Morrill to-day for action before the Senate proceeds to take up any executive business, and the vote being taken on the first one, it was adopted unanimously—yeas 49, nays 0. The second resolution was also adopted—yeas 42, nays 8. When the third resolution was reached, Mr. MORRILL (Me.) said he had over, that Senators might have more time to consider it. Pending discussion, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

The reading of the Journal of Thursday last occupied three-quarters of an hour. Under the call of states, bills were introduced and referred as follows:

By Mr. WOOD, of New York, to repeal, in part, the act of January 14, 1875, providing for resumption of specie payment and to facilitate resumption of specie payment without contraction of the currency.

By Mr. COX, for payment of the same bonds to citizens of the District of Columbia.

Mr. RANDALL moved to suspend the rules in order to proceed to the consideration of the Amnesty bill.

Mr. BLAINE suggested that the Centennial Appropriation bill be first considered, but the House refused to entertain his motion, and the rules were suspended by the requisite two-thirds vote.

Mr. RANDALL then demanded the previous question on the passage of the bill.

Mr. BLAINE—Has the gentleman desire to cut off amendments?

Mr. RANDALL—I desire to have the previous question seconded, and then I will allow half of the hour which the rules give me, to be yielded to gentlemen desiring to speak.

Mr. BLAINE—The gentleman proposes not to allow me to offer amendments.

Mr. RANDALL—I will listen to any amendment.

Mr. BLAINE—The gentleman knows very well that the previous question cuts off amendments.

Mr. RANDALL—I am quite aware of the effect of it. I have for twelve years learned its effect in the House. I am familiar with it, and that of your side of the House. [Marmurs of applause on the part of the Democrats.]

Mr. RANDALL—As I have one hour for debate, I propose—

Mr. GARFIELD [interrupting]—Under that rule? This bill is not a report from a committee, and therefore there is no debate allowed after the previous question is seconded.

Mr. BLAINE insisted on the same point, and the chair had admitted it.

Mr. RANDALL—I am not quite sure with the Senate [Edmunds] had heard no one admit it.

Mr. SHERMAN read from the last report of the Secretary of the Treasury to show that the bill of January last met the approval of Secretary Bristow.

The question being on referring the bill introduced by Mr. Morrill to the Committee on Finance, it was so referred.

The Senate then, at 5 o'clock, went into executive session. At 5:15 the doors were reopened and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

Mr. HOPKINS, form the Select Committee on Centennial celebration, reported a bill appropriating $1,500,000 to complete the Centennial buildings and grounds, and to erect suitable buildings for the celebration, one-third of the amount to be paid immediately and the remainder in four monthly installments; provides for the Government exhibit and not be liable for any debt or obligation in connection with the celebration, or for any additional payment. The bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. SCHLECKER offered a resolution for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the increase, progress and murders along the Mexican borders in Texas.

Mr. HOLMAN suggested that the subject should be left to the Committee on Military Affairs. He was opposed to the multiplication of select committees.

Mr. WOOD, of New York, favored the appointment of select committees, inasmuch as Committees on Foreign Affairs and Military Affairs, to which were referred that portion of the President's message in regard to these depredations, could not act jointly on the subject.

Mr. REGAN advocated the resolution, and said the authorities of Texas would not be able longer to restrain the people of that country from taking the law into their own defense—a thing which might be greatly to be deplored, taking into consideration the danger of international complications. He hoped the committee might be charged with the whole question.

Mr. HANCOCK also advocated the resolution, and spoke of the necessity of avoiding war and maintaining peace on the frontier. He spoke of the increase of Mexican marauders to a distance of fifty-seventy-five or one hundred and twenty-five miles into Texas. He was not complaining of the Government of Mexico, for he realized the comparative inability of that Government to preserve order and peace on its borders. The people of Texas were disposed to act with the greatest forbearance toward the Mexicans, but they thought means might be found to afford adequate protection to them.

Mr. HALE opposed reference to a select committee; Mr. MILLS favored the resolution, and Mr. HOLMAN thought it far better and safer that a question like this should go to a regular standing committee of the House, and he made that motion.

Mr. TOWNSEND favored the original resolution.

Mr. JONES, of Kentucky, expressed his surprise that opposition should come from the Democratic side of the House to a vote on a matter of the greatest importance to the people of Texas, and he hoped the resolution would be adopted.

The motion to refer the resolution to a committee was rejected and the resolution adopted.

Mr. BLAINE asked Mr. Randall whether he desired to bring the House to a vote on his Amnesty bill on Monday next.

Mr. RANDALL replied that he did.

Mr. BLAINE then said he had a substitute to offer for it, which he asked to have read and ordered printed. The substitute was read, as follows:

That all persons now under disabilities imposed by the Fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, with the exception of Jefferson Davis, late President of the so-called Confederate States, shall be relieved of such disabilities upon their appearing before any judge of a United States court and taking and subscribing in open court the following oath, to be duly attested and recorded, viz.: "I, A. B., do solemnly swear [or affirm] that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that, to the best of my knowledge and ability, I will faithfully discharge the duties of a citizen of the United States."

The House, at 4:30 P. M., adjourned till Monday next.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 10, 1876.

SENATE.

Senator ALCORN occupied his seat to-day for the first time this session.

Mr. SARGENT presented the petition of 26,615 citizens of California, praying for the anti-polygamy law of 1862 and the Poland bill, that Utah be admitted as a State in the Union. In presenting the petition Mr. SARGENT said he did not concur in the object of the petition, and therefore laid the matter before the Senate as they had requested him to do. Referred.

Mr. THURMAN presented a petition of citizens of Ohio asking a repeal of the Resumption act passed last session, and asking the enactment of a law to provide for the retirement of national bank notes, and to substitute therefor legal tender United States notes, and the issue of a 3.65 convertible bond; the proceeds of the sale of such bonds to be applied first to the redemption of the six per cent., and second to the redemption of the five cent. gold bearing bonds. Referred.

Mr. CONKLING submitted the following:

Resolved, That the compliance with the will of the people, the precedents of history, the best established principles of international law, the precepts of Christian rule and morality, the requirements of the commercial and political intercourse of the United States and taking into consideration the relations existing between the United States and Spain, and that it is desirable that reciprocal agreements of a good understanding between the two peoples may have thereafter been and may be changed by reason of the grave events which for several years have taken place in the Island of Cuba, the President of the United States is and he is hereby authorized and requested to declare and maintain as part of the public law between the Government of Spain and the people of Cuba.

Resolved, That, making this declaration through the usual form of a proclamation, and in order to protect citizens of the United States and merchants and navigators in general from any improper way for want of precise and clear regulations to govern them in this matter, the President of the United States be and he is hereby authorized and requested to place in full operation the same provisions as have been in force during the recent war between her Majesty the Queen of Spain on June 17th, 1861, on the occasion of the outbreak of the civil war in the United States, proclamation to be printed and laid on the table.

Mr. HAMLIN, from the committee on Rules, reported back the resolution submitted by Mr. Edmunds before recess, to adopt the joint rules of the two Houses of Congress of last session, with the recommendation that it be passed, and that the President be notified.

Mr. MORTON moved to postpone consideration of the twenty-second joint rule.

Pending the motion to postpone Mr. THURMAN, further consideration of the subject was postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. WHITE submitted the following resolution:

Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, That the people of the several States compose, in their highest sovereign capacity as free and independent States, adopted a Federal Constitution and established the Government of the United States as a Confederal Republic, and for the purpose of carrying into effect the objects for which it was formed, delegated to it certain powers and certain rights enumerated in said Constitution, but reserved to the States severally and to the people thereof, all the residuary powers not delegated by the United States by the Constitution nor prohibited by it to the States, ordered to be printed and lie on the table.

Mr. MORRILL (Me.) then suggested to him by several Senators that the report of the Committee on Privileges and Elections in relation to the President *pro tempore* of the Senate, should have been accompanied by a resolution embodying the conclusions of the committee. He therefore submitted the following:

Resolved, That the tenure of a President *pro tempore* of the Senate elected at one session, does not expire at the meeting of Congress next following, but that the Senate may by having appeared to take the chair.

Resolved, That the office of Vice President does not have the effect to vacate the office of President *pro tempore* of the Senate.

Resolved, That the President *pro tempore* of the Senate is held at the pleasure of the Senate.

Resolved, That Hon. Thomas W. Ferry, Senator from Michigan, who was elected President *pro tempore* of the United States Senate, is now President *pro tempore* by virtue of said election and the grace and favor of the Senate.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of executive business, and when the doors were reopened the Senate adjourned.

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HOUSE.

The reading of the Journal of Thursday last occupied three-quarters of an hour.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, Pa., January 14, 1876.

SENATE.

The Senate met at half past eleven this morning and was called to order by the Lieutenant Governor. The following standing committees were announced:

Standing Committees.

Senators—Mssrs. Wallace, Turner, Lowry, Lamberton, Jessup, Penrose, Hopkins, Stevens, Hall, Lilly, Cochran, Mann, Lawrence, Kaine, Ewing, Mylin, Wherry, Hall, Lowry, Lamberton, Penrose, Cochran, Mann, Lawrence, Ewing, Wherry, Hall, Penrose, Lamberton, Lowry, Cochran, Lawrence, Wherry, Penrose, Lowry, Lawrence, Cochran, Wherry, Lowry, Penrose, Lawrence, Wherry, Cochran, Penrose, Lawrence, Lowry, Wherry, Cochran, Lawrence, Penrose, Wherry, Lowry, Cochran.

Mr. Hall, a bill relative to the Philadelphia Exhibition plans for decent public buildings.

Mr. Allen, an act empowering the Mayor of Philadelphia to appoint additional notaries public within the city.

Mr. Lilly, a supplementary act authorizing the Governor to appoint additional notaries public.

Mr. Newmyer, an act to carry into effect Section 5 of Article 9 of the Constitution.

Mr. Lamberton, an act to provide for the payment of fees of witnesses in criminal cases.

Mr. Mann, a bill to provide for the payment of jurors in criminal cases.

Mr. Lowry, a bill to provide for the payment of jurors in criminal cases.

Mr. Lamberton, an act relating to the Supreme Court.

Mr. Lowry, a bill relating to the Supreme Court

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, January 15, 1876.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A WILL

Decision in the Clark-McCully Case—Dissenting Opinion of Judges Paxson and Sharswood.

Justice Mercur delivered the opinion of the Supreme Court in the case of Frew *et al.* vs. Clark—the famous "bond of friendship" case. The following is a synopsis:

After reciting the nature of the case, and various definitions of a will, Justice Mercur says:

This instrument is in writing. It is signed at the end thereof. It contains no admission of indebtedness. It furnishes no evidence of a debt. It contains no promise to pay. It vested no present interest. It was not to take effect until after the death of McCully. In the meantime he could revoke it at his pleasure. It therefore possessed all the essential characteristics of a will, and was undoubtedly testamentary in the character.

The sixth section of the act of 8th April, 1833, requires that a will "in all cases shall be proved by the oath or affirmation of two or more competent witnesses." The act does not require a form to be used in describing a witness, though the body of the will be not in the handwriting of the testator. It may be proved, if by competent witnesses, by two or more in number. In this case, some fifteen witnesses testified to the authenticity of McCully's signatures. Among the number was Robert B. Clark, the defendant in error. It is claimed that he was incompetent, and he must have been on the ground of either interest or policy. The first section of the act of the 15th of April, 1850, provides, "That hereafter the policy of law shall exclude a party from being a witness in any civil proceeding." The purview of the section, after wholly excluding from the operations of the law several classes of incompetent witnesses, the act shall apply "in issues and inquiries *devisavit vel non.*" This was an issue *devisavit vel non.* It was an issue in contest. Conveyancers have construed the section in the connection of the subject and act had not been fully weighed, particularly, the words "except only the right of such deceased owner, between parties claiming such right by devolution on the death of such owner." It does not appear that the plaintiffs succeeding to *the right of the deceased owner* was before the Court in Bowen vs. Gorandlo, nor do I see how any such question could arise in an issue *devisavit vel non.* But I am not prepared, and am not willing, that it should be assumed that such question shall arise the exception in the act would apply, and the parties would be competent. Such views would preserve the act as a whole and avoid what I cannot but regard as the mischief of permitting Clark to testify. The evidence in favor of the signature being McCully's was most ample to submit to the jury. On that testimony they had a right to find, as they did find, the signature to be genuine.

The learned Judge said to the jury, there was no evidence in the case of want of testamentary capacity in James McCully. A careful examination of testimony leads us to the same conclusion.

The questions whether any fraud or imposition was practiced on McCully, or that he signed the paper in ignorance of its contents, or that some one wrote the body of the instrument over his signature, and without his knowledge and consent, were properly submitted to the jury.

It is claimed, however, that when the principal beneficiary under a will is a stranger, having no claims from relationship, direct request is not required to rebut the influence in preventing the making of the will. In support of this view, Boyd vs. Boyd, 16 P. F. Smith 283, is cited. That case, however, is predicated on general evidence of power exercised over a feebler of competent mind. A reading of it, as shown, however, that McCully's mental capacity was not impaired. Its mind was clear, strong and discriminating. His judgment was good and self-reliant.

It is further urged that Clark occupied a semi-confidential relation to the testator, growing out of the fact that the body of the will is in the handwriting of Clark; that this is a suspicious circumstance, requiring the fullest explanation. Granted; yet if Clark is believed, a full explanation was given. We cannot say a minute statement of all the circumstances under which the will was prepared.

As bearing on another question of importance, the Judge says it was competent to show that McCully possessed a large estate; that he had neither wife nor child, and that his relations with Clark were of an intimate business and social character. In the absence of persons having strong natural claims on McCully's bounty, he might more reasonably have designated a small portion of his large estate "to commemorate the long friendship existing be tween them."

We think the learned Judge ruled all the legal questions substantially correctly, and we discover no good reason for disturbing the judgment. Judgment affirmed.

TWO JUDGES DISSENT.

Judge Paxson filed a dissenting opinion in the case of Frew vs. Clark, in which Judge Sharswood concurs. Judge Paxson dissents for the following reasons:

1. That the paper in controversy is not a testamentary writing. It is an instrument for the payment of money, and was delivered by Mr. McCully in his lifetime to the person in whose favor it was executed. Had it remained in the possession of McCully until after his death, it might possibly have been proved as a testamentary paper, but the delivery rendered it irrevocable, and it became a writing obligatory for the payment of money. As such it is within the rule laid down in Boyd vs. Boyd, 16 P. F. S. 231, from which case I do not think the present can be distinguished, except as between the parties the seal imparted consideration. In the absence of fraud or duress it is conclusive.

2. Even if a testamentary paper, it was not sufficiently proved. Clark drew the paper himself by which he was to be directly benefited to the extent of $75,000. For this purpose he occupied a confidential relation to the testator, and under the rule announced in Boyd vs. Boyd, 16 P. F. S. 283, it was not enough to prove the formal execution of the will. It must be shown that it was read over or known to the testator, that he knew what he was signing, and that it was the exercise of his free will. On the contrary, it appears that the paper was not read over to him; that Clark withheld from him the fact that Ohio Cowan had advised him (Clark) that it would operate as a will. This, coupled with the fact that the paper commences with the words "I command all men by these presents," and that it had nothing upon its face to indicate to the mind of an unlearned man that it was a will, or intended to operate as such, in my judgment brings the case clearly within the rule of Boyd vs. Boyd.

I will observe further that while the admission of clark as a witness under the act of 1850 will was not error under the authority of Bowen v. Gorandlo, 21 P. F. S., 357, the gravity of this issue would lead me to hesitate in reconsidering that case, and the proper construction of the act of 15th April, 1850. It is possible the exception in the connection of cases of said act had not been fully weighed, particularly, the words "except only the right of such deceased owner, between parties claiming such right by devolution on the death of such owner." If these words appear to give the right of such deceased owner, between parties claiming such right by devolution on the death of such owner," to the plaintiff in the preceding paragraph, *the right of the deceased owner* was before the Court in Bowen vs. Gorandlo, nor do I see how any such question could arise in an issue *devisavit vel non.* But I am not prepared, and am not willing that it should be assumed that such question shall arise the exception in the act would apply, and the parties would be competent. Such views would preserve the act as a whole and avoid what I cannot but regard as the mischief of permitting Clark to testify. The evidence in favor of the signature being McCully's was most ample to submit to the jury. On that testimony they had a right to find, as they did find, the signature to be genuine.

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We think the learned Judge ruled all the legal questions substantially correctly, and we discover no good reason for disturbing the judgment. Judgment affirmed.

THE CLEVELAND AND PITTSBURGH RAILROAD.

Stockholders' Annual Meeting—Report of the President—Election of Directors.

The stockholders of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad held their annual meeting at Cleveland on Wednesday, when the report of the President, Mr. J. N. McCullough, was read, and Directors for the ensuing year were elected.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

In his report for the year ending November 30, the President says:

Receipts arising out of business and assets of the period previous to the lease of the road—interest, dividends, &c.—amount to $13,685 11. Expenditures of the same class to $81,870 66. The latter includes settlements of disputed tax claims with the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in both of which adjustments regarded as very favorable have been amicably secured, the excess of expenditures over receipts $68,185 55, being paid out of the funds in the Treasury from previous years.

The mortgages of the company show the following changes, viz:

Of the second mortgage bonds outstanding at last report $17,500 have been retired and cancelled, and but $500 remains unpaid.

The third mortgage, $1,252,000, which matured on the first of last May, and for meeting which provision was announced to have been made in the last annual report, has been substantially retired; but $12,500 of the bonds remain unpaid, owing to the funds to meet which are in the hands of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, New York, awaiting their presentation.

The consolidated mortgage has been increased by the issue of $1,280,000 bonds under the provisions of the lease to provide for the liquidation of the third mortgage and $80,000 above to retire a like amount in the sinking fund. Outstanding at this date, $2 701,000.

There have been issued of the construction and equipment bonds $160,000 in liquidation of the claim of the lessee on account of improvements upon your property to December 31st, 1874, as adjusted and approved by your directors. A small balance of $542 79—less than one bond—is carried forward to the credit of the lessee in this account, after charging up the $160,000 bonds.

There have been retired during the year of this series of bonds, in the sinking fund, $15,000. The outstanding balance at the closing of the books is $1,342,000.

The lessee's account for betterments for the year 1874 (included in the settlement alluded to above), allowed and brought into account since last report, is committed to New Freight Office, Pittsburgh, (complete).....$34,321 26
Increase of sidings at various points— 2,232 feet.....5,620 77
Lot purchased at Berea, for new engine house.....3,500 00
Telegraph line, one new and additional wire and appurtenances between Cleveland and Pittsburgh.....5,356 76
Personal property, four new and additional cars upon coal platforms at Cuyahoga shop.....835 17
Equipment, two caboose cars.....2,258 76

Total.....$52,971 86

Expenditures during the current year by the lessee to this amount are less than $20,000 for steel rails only.

The lessee reports the business of the road, as per requirements of the lease, for the twelve months ending December 31st, 1874, as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Gross earnings	$3,055,478 88
P. F. W. and C. Railway, consolidated earnings	88,254 21
Other resources	1,514 56
Total receipts	$3,145,247 35

EXPENDITURES.

Operating expenses	$1,584,572 10
Improvements to the property	52,971 86
Rental, interest, &c	1,334,318 01
Total expenditures	$2,971,861 97

These figures show a surplus earned over all classes of expenditures of $173,385 38.

This state of facts, when the condition of business in the country at large is considered, cannot but be very reassuring to the holders of your securities, giving pledges, as it does, of permanent values and uninterrupted returns.

The guaranteed income account for the year is as follows:

RECEIPTS.

From the lessee for account of rental interest, sinking fund, &c	$1,235,181 61

EXPENDITURES.

Dividends	$786,803 51
Interest on funded debt	387,680 00
Sinking fund	53,994 00
Maintenance of organization	9,266 25
Total	$1,234,633 76
Balance	$ 547 85

The company's financial condition at this time is shown by a detailed balance sheet, of which we give the following summary:

DEBIT.

Road and equipment	$16,488,402 55
Cash, stock, bills receivable, &c	844,174 37
	$17,332,576 92

CREDIT.

Capital stock	$11,243,479 29
Total funded debt	5,160,345 63
Earnings and guaranteed income	561,554 86
Dividends and bills due	366,909 14
	$17,332,576 92

The relations of the company with the lessee continue, as heretofore, to be entirely harmonious.

Although the financial depression has borne upon the business of the road more heavily than during the preceding year, the stipulated payments under the lease have been promptly and regularly met and the credit of the company fully maintained.

While it is yet too early to receive the details of the current year's business from the lessee, it is very gratifying to be able to state in this connection that the lessee has fully earned the means to meet all the liabilities under the lease and a small surplus.

By order of the Board.

J. N. McCULLOUGH, President.

The stockholders proceeded to the election of Directors, when the following were chosen: John N. McCullough, Thos. Jones, Pittsburgh; Thos. A. Scott, Philadelphia; John B. Trevor, S. J. Tilden, Charles Lanier, Geo. W. Cass and Isaac Kip, New York; Reuben F. Springer, Cincinnati; J. V. Palmer, Jas. F. Clark and E. P. Ranney, Cleveland.

P., V. & C. R. W.

Annual Meeting of the Stockholders—Reports and Election.

Monday afternoon at two o'clock the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Railway was held at the office of the company, No. 61 Fourth avenue.

From the report of the Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. D. F. Corwin, it appears that the receipts from all sources during the year 1875 amounted to $823,593 80.

The report of Wm. J. Rose, General Freight and Passenger Agent, shows that the earnings of his department for the year were as follows:

Passengers	$ 73,811 08
Freight	40,826 53
Total	$114,437 61

The number of passengers carried was 249,695. The freight tonnage was 86,497 tons, of which the classification is as follows:

	Tons.
Iron and iron ores	21,622
Coal	45,890
Merchandise and manufactures	8,678
Stone and lime	1,980
Agricultural products	3,578
Miscellaneous articles	4,381
Lumber	1,160
Live stock	1,028
Total	87,497

The report of the General Manager, Mr. John M. Byers, shows the road to be in a flourishing condition, and the business of the road, notwithstanding the continued depression, is quite as good as that of last year.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

President, John Scott; Vice President, B. F. Jones; Directors, David A. Stewart, W. J. Rivers, Jacob Painter, A. B. Hunter, M. H. Thompson, George V. Lawrence, Alexander Patton.

AN OHIO SCANDAL.

A Betrayed Husband's Revenge—A Coal Oil Lamp as an Instrument of Vengeance.

[From the Sandusky (O.) Register, January 10.]

The little village of Bettsville, Seneca county, near Tiffin, is shaken from center to circumference by the developments of an intrigue that to Bettsville is all that the Beecher badness was to Brooklyn at the height of the excitement; but the result in the former case is materially different from that in the latter. There is no spread eagle correspondence, no hanging on the ragged edge of despair, nor fooling around the brink of a moral Niagara. It appears from information gleaned from an exchange in reference to the affair, that Mr. S. Norton, of the above village, has for some time suspected his wife, during his absence from home, of becoming improperly intimate with a Mr. Chapman. For months the husband kept his own counsel and awaited events; but at last he became so troubled concerning the matter that he spoke to Chapman about it, but the latter nevertheless persisted in continuing his visits to the house during Norton's absence. The other evening matters came to a climax. Norton happened to go into a store where Chapman was loafing, and, almost immediately, Chapman sneaked out and proceeded directly to Norton's residence. The husband's suspicions were aroused and he went hurriedly home and actually caught Chapman and Mrs. Norton in the latter's sleeping apartment, both talking earnestly and excitedly on what they considered a private subject. The infuriated husband at once drew a revolver and snapped it at Chapman, but the weapon hung fire; and as Chapman was making an effort to escape from the room, Norton caught hold of a coal oil lamp that was burning on the bureau near by, and hurled it at Chapman, striking him in the face. The lamp exploded; the pieces of glass cut Chapman's face terribly, and the burning oil ran in streams of fire over his person, burning one of his ears almost off, destroying the sight, it is thought, of both eyes, literally cooking his breast and shoulders, and burning the hair all of his head. The fire was at last extinguished, but it was feared that Chapman was burned so badly that he would die. The latest reports, however, show improving. The physician who attends him says that he will doubtless lose both his eyes.

A literary man named Percy Boyd, connected with the aristocracy, died recently in London in a common lodging house. He was intimate with Dickens, Thackeray and others. Although only forty-seven years of age, he appeared at least seventy years old.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, Jan. 12, 1876.

The banking business so far as active operations either in checking, collections or discount transactions were concerned, was be no means active to-day. There were instances in which bankers reported a liberal discount business, but these were rather the exceptions, which proved the rule. There is no doubt that the strict policy which some of the leading banks pursue in discriminating against all but the very best paper, has largely increased the amount of idle funds in bank vaults, and also that in some cases an extreme and apparently unnecessary caution has been used. But the lesson of caution has been severely impressed upon bankers, and while it is true, as a New York financier once said, that "banks cannot make money by putting their money into their vaults and sitting down on it," it is also tolerably apparent that the earnings of a suspended paper account are not much more satisfactory. Rates of discount continue easy on first-class paper, without quotable change. No events of interest transpired in reference to local stocks or securities.

We present below a summarized tabulation of the official statements of the national banks of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, showing their condition on Friday, December, 17, 1875. As usual the five banks of Allegheny and Birmingham are placed outside of the totals, being classed as rural banks in matters of reserve. The twenty-three Pittsburgh banks only are therefore available in computation of reserve and comparisons of condition. In the table given below the items are condensed considerably for the purpose of saving space. The first line, for example, covers loans and discounts, bonds, stocks and mortgages, other than United States bonds to secure circulation, which are given in the second column. The amounts due from all banks, other than reserve agents, whether State or national, are also condensed under the fourth head. The expense column includes real estate, furniture, fixtures, current expenses and premiums. The cash items are principally composed of national bank notes, but also include fractional currency and checks other than exchanges for clearing house. On the other side, the surplus is condensed with the undivided profits, and all deposits are condensed under two heads, the first being the amounts due individual depositors, including unpaid dividends and certificates, and the second the amounts due other banks, State and national. The following is the tabulated exhibit:

RESOURCES.

	Oct. 1, 1875.	Dec. 17, 1875.	Increase.	Decrease.
Loans	$19,316,007 17	$19,398,092 68	$82,085 51	
Bonds for circulation	7,695,500 00	7,695,500 00		
Due from Banks	1,951,917 51	1,906,336 22		$45,581 29
Due from banks	1,027,817 69	981,718 33		46,099 36
Expense, &c	1,408,439 45	1,414,958 27	6,518 82	
Cash and currency	462,940 30	749,619 2	286,678 92	
Exchanges	975,010 61	767,091 62		207,918 99
Specie	42,170 07	32,758 2		9,411 85
Legal Tenders	2,331,088 00	2,238,671 0		92,417 00
5 per cent. red. fund	340,877 40	337,962 50		2,914 90
Totals	$35,205,804 20	$35,532,422 9	374,283 25	47,664 36

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock	$10,576,923 08	$10,576,923 08	
Surplus and profits	3,705,770 39	3,785,919 6	80,149 27
Circulation	6,749,187 00	6,940,200 0	191,013 00
Individual deposits	12,100,792 65	12,045,340 21		55,452 44
Due to banks	2,142,833 11	2,282,921 2	140,088 09	
Totals	$35,205,804 20	$35,532,422 9	411,250 36	84,631 47
Number of banks	25	25		

The changes shown to have taken place in the period between the two dates are not very important, except as showing a somewhat less plethoric condition. The principal alterations are shown by the decrease in cash items and exchanges, under which heads there was an aggregate reduction of over $700,000. This is partially made up by the increase in the deposits with reserve agents and other banks, and in legal tenders, but still materially reduces the total of assets. The capital and loans are increased in about equal amounts, the additional increase in loans which might have been expected having been counteracted by a decrease in deposits. The feature of large deposits with foreign bankers, noted in connection with the last statement, still continues, the deposits with reserve agents being considerably in excess of half the reserve. The supply of legal tenders and specie, however, makes up a large portion of the reserve required, and the total cash assets of the banks amount to nearly fifty per cent. of liabilities. The position as shown by the statement is a strong one. The following is a statement and classification of the legal reserve at the above date:

	December 17, 1875.
Reserve required	$3,195,716 86
Reserve held	4,129,300 35
Excess of reserve	942,583 49
Classification of reserve:	
Specie	42,170 07
Legal tenders	2,231,088 00
Five per cent. redemption fund	337,499 35
U. S. certificates of deposit	100,000 00
With reserve agents	1,428,634 93
	4,139,392 35

The statement does not give any cause to consider that there has been any important change in the financial situation. The principal features of the position are great ease and strength, and the most prominent fact connected therewith is that the demand for money from home borrowers is still so inadequate to the supply, that in addition to the amount of $850,000 legal tenders in excess of reserve requirements, more than $1,500,000 is placed in foreign points, in addition to the $1,400,000 offered beid abroad available for reserve. The moral which we would draw is still that of judicious and yet liberal extension of investments in order to give employment to the now idle or only partially employed overplus.

—In connection with some remarks made in this column some time since, concerning the fictitious element of cost represented by the capital and debt totals of our railways, the Boston *Commercial Bulletin* makes some very forcible and just remarks in support of the same view. It first shows the fallacy of the common method of ascertaining how much a railroad ought to charge for fares and freights, namely, by taking ten or eight per cent. of the capital which it gives in its report, after deducting the necessary amount for interest on bonds, and calling this percentage a fair and equitable compensation for the capital invested, and says: "If the stock has been watered the water must be squeezed out, at least it must be ignored in estimating the *true* capital, upon which, and upon which alone, a fair interest should be earned." It then drives the nail home by the following well put and telling point:

"Not one in this line has, to our knowledge, yet ventured to affirm that the true basis upon which to reckon is not even the cost of the railroad when it was built, for all materials were paid for in the high, inflated prices which we have left far behind us; but that a railroad should earn only a fair interest on a sum which will replace the road at the present time, when labor and materials are somewhat below the average rational level. People should understand, when they pay ten dollars for a railroad ticket or for freight, that a dollar and a half, or more are an unnecessarily exorbitant payment for mere units at antecedent prices. It ought not to be difficult to break up the illusion that, because a railroad company is earning only one or six per cent. on what it chooses to call its capital stock, therefore it is not earning a fair compensation, and should receive the sympathy and support of the public."

The same article goes on to urge that the same principle must be applied to other interests, instancing manufacturing establishments. There is a wide difference between railways, and interests of the latter class; for, no matter what the latter may rate the cost of their property at, they are obliged to sell their production at the market value. Very many of the manufacturing establishments of Pittsburgh, even within the past two years, charged up to profit and loss account the depreciation of their mill property, and have done wisely in thus making their books represent their actual condition. But those who have not done so do not think of asking a cent more for bar iron on account of the large showing on their books of capital employed. Railways, on the contrary, are supporting their tariffs, more especially the case to points where they control the business, on the plea that such rates are no more than a reasonable interest upon their capital, which capital, speaking in the aggregate, is, as shown above, largely fictitious and inflated. The one case, therefore, is one which repays a certain degree of scrutiny; while in the other, the full operation of the laws governing market values, renders it of little importance to the public at large, how much a mill-owner rates his plant at, since whether his estimate is large or small, he can do neither more or less than sell his production at market value.

—The following is a detailed exhibit of the outstanding debt of the United States bearing interest in coin, on the opening of the new year:

Loans.	Bonds outstanding. Register'd.	Coupon.
6's of 1868	$ 200,000	
6's of 1881	a 13,794,000	$ 4,621,000
6's, Oregon war		945,000
6's of 1881	125,000,650	63,420,700
5's of 1874	53,683,250	21,316,950
5's, 10-40	b 141,613,900	52,921,700
5's, 5-20's of 1865	14,218,550	16,446,150
5's, 5-20's of 1865	63,868,450	11,131,200
5's, 5-20's of 1865, new	c 59,403,900	143,259,200
5's, 5-20's of 1867	d 157,307,000	103,465,350
5's, 5-20's of 1868	14,630,500	22,843,500
5's, funded loan, 1881	d 218,470,100	257,988,350
Total	$765,061,300	$922,938,850

The sizes or denominations of each issue of bonds are as follows: (*a*) Coupon $1,000, registered, $50, $100, $500, $1,000, $5,000, $10,000. (*b*) $50, $100 and $500. (*c*) Coupon $50, $100, $500 and $1,000, registered, same and $5,000 and $10,000. (*d*) $50.

—The following decision on the point of usury is of some interest. We quote from the New York *Herald:*

Judge Blatchford, of the United States court, yesterday rendered a decision in the case of the Providence Tool Company, bankrupt, against Jonathan F. Frost, trustee in bankruptcy, &c. The plaintiffs were holders of notes made by the bankrupt for the amount of $31,100, secured by a mortgage on hotel property. After the bankruptcy the furniture was sold by order of the court, and the proceeds, $32,000, deposited in the United States Treasury, subject to the claim. The trustee resisted the claim on the ground of usury. The notes were dated and made in New York and the notes were dated as payable in New York. They were, however, delivered in Providence, Rhode Island, where the law allowed any rate of interest, and the parties might agree upon. The Judge holds that they were Rhode Island contracts, provided for by the law of that State, and not, under the jurisdiction of the State of New York, and awarded the money on deposit in the trust company to the plaintiffs.

—The San Francisco *Chronicle* gives this summary of the dividends paid by Californian companies in 1875:

Seven commercial banks	$ 1,383,000	
Twelve savings banks	4,337,000	
Pacific Railroad	400,000	
Central Pacific Railroad	2,100,000	
Insurance companies	884,000	
Insurance companies	571,000	
Street railroad companies	77,500	
Miscellaneous companies	228,000	
Coal companies	157,500	
Mining companies	15,600,000	
Miscellaneous companies	261,300	
Total	$26,785,300	
Total for 1874	20,352,700	

The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, &c., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

	January 12, 1876.	10:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	3 P. M.
Gold		112¾	112¾	112½
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup		120½	120½	
5-20's, 1865		117¾	117¾	
5-20's, 1865, registered		115¾	115¾	
5-20's, 1867		119¼	119¼	
5-20's, 1868		119¾	119¾	
10-40's		117¼	117¼	
6's, currency		123	123	
Currency 6's		124½	124½	
Pacific Mail		73¾	73¾	
Western Union Tel		75¾	75¾	
Pacific Mail		37¾	37¾	
Adams Express		61½		
American Express		61½		
United States Exp's		98½		
New York Central		106¾		
Erie		15¾	15¾	15¾
Michigan Central		58¾	58¾	58¾
Lake Shore & Michigan So		64¾	64¾	64¾
Illinois Central		97		
Wab., St. L. & Pittsburgh		40¼	40¼	40¼
Chicago & Northwestern		40¾	40¾	40¾
Do preferred		70¾	70¾	70¾
Rock Island		106	106¼	106¼
St. Paul common		39¾	39¾	39¾
Do preferred		70¾	70¾	70¾
Wabash common		3¾	3¾	3¾
Do preferred		9¾		
Ohio & Mississippi		18	17¾	17¾
Union Pacific		87¾		
Harlem		132½		
Hannibal & St. Jos		20½	20½	20½
Do preferred		28	28¼	
Iron Mountain			33¾	
Missouri Pacific			3¾	3¾
Missouri Pacific			22¼	
S. Carolinas, April			23¼	
S. Carolinas, July			23¼	
Missouri 6's			102¾	

[By Associated Press.]

Gold Closed at 112¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, January 12.—Money 7 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 6½@8 per cent. Customs receipts $171,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $425,000. Clearings $32,000,000. Sterling quiet at 484@488.

GOLD.

Gold opened and closed at 112¾, with sales in the interim at 112¾. Rates paid for carrying were 7, 6, 5¼, 5, 6¼, 3 and 1 per cent.; loans also made flat.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds firmer. Railroad bonds in good demand. State securities steady. Stocks were irregular but in the main strong, with Northwestern, St. Paul and Lake Shore as the favorites. The latter sold on an ex-dividend of 2 per cent. Transactions at the Stock Exchange to-day were 90,000 shares, of which 25,000 were Northwestern, 14,000 St. Paul, and 23,000 Lake Shore. The following are the closing quotations:

STOCKS.

W. U. Telegraph	75¾	Do preferred	70¾
Pacific Mail	37	Toledo & Wabash	34
Adams Express	100	Do preferred	70
United States Ex	42¼	Fort Wayne	99¼
American Ex	61½	Terre Haute	5
New York Central	106¾	Do preferred	15
Erie	15¾	Chicago & Alton	100
Do preferred	35¾	Do preferred	107
Harlem	132¼	Indiana Central	9¾
Do preferred	131	Indiana & Cin'ti	11½
Mich. Central	58¾	Hannibal & St. Jos	19¾
Lake Shore	64¾	Delaware & Lack	118
Illinois Central	99¾	Panama	119½
Clev. & Pitts	90	Missouri Pac	22¼
Northwestern	40¾	Atlantic & P. Tel	18¾
Do preferred	70¾	Quicksilver, stock	7¼
N. J. Central	103	Cen. Pac. bonds	104¾
Rock Island	106¾	Union Pac. bonds	103½
St. Paul	39¾	Do land grants	103¾

*Ex div.

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	120½	10-40's	116½
5's, 1874	109½	6's, coupons	117¾
5-20's, 1865, new	117¼	New 5's	118
5-20's, 1867	120	Currency 6's	122½
5-20's, 1868	120½		

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old	73½	Virginia, old	38
Tennessee, new	42¾	Missouri 6's	102½
Virginia, new	37		

LONDON, January 12, 5 P. M.—The amount of bullion gone into the Bank of England on balance to-day was £102,000. Consols for money 93 13-16; for account 93 13-16. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 104; 10-40's, 103¾; new 5's 104¾. Railroad securities—New York Central 98; Erie 16¾; do preferred 29.

PARIS, January 12.—Rentes 65 francs 90 centimes.

FRANKFORT, January 12.—United States bonds—New 5's 96¾.

NEW ORLEANS, January 12.—Gold 113. Sight ¼ per cent. discount. Sterling—Bank 544@545; 60's 545½.

St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, January 12.—Cotton steady and unchanged. Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat lower to sell at $1 45. Corn steady at 39@40c. Oats dull at 32½c. Barley quiet at $1 35. Rye steady at 69@69c. Pork dull at $19 75@20 00. Lard—Nothing doing at 12¾c. Bulkmeats firm at 9½@10¼c. Bacon firmer at 9½@10¼c. Whisky steady at $1 06. Greenmeats strong at 7@10@10¼@10¾.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, January 12, 1876.

There was not much alteration in the especial features of trade to-day, business being generally rather quiet at steady prices. In some lines a moderate business is done, and this being the season of the year, trade is generally considered satisfactory. In grain, feed and produce circles, however, there was very little done, and universal stagnation seemed to prevail. In country produce, there was an active demand for the best grades of butter, which sold readily at former prices, but otherwise the market was dull and very quiet. Flour has been steady and firm on choice brands for over a month, but in low grades, of which there is an exceedingly heavy stock, the market is weak, sales having been made as low as $4 00. There was a fairly liberal movement in provisions for the season. Prices were easy and showed a reduction of ¼c on hams, shoulders and bacon, while lard was firmer under the influence of an advance of ¼c reported from the West. In groceries there was a rather slow trade at steady and unchanged values. Dry goods were steady and unchanged, but sluggishly at generally unchanged prices. Petroleum was firm with a sharp advance, with limited business, transactions having been somewhat checked by the recent sharp advance. Other lines of business

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1876.

THE foreign exports from Philadelphia last week amounted to $584,357.

THE foreign exports of Boston, last week, amounted to $836,566, against $946,301 for the corresponding week last year.

IT HAS been definitely ascertained that the whisky men of Milwaukee were never assessed for political purposes by the Republican party.

AND now the whisky ring of Chicago is endeavoring to bring about a collision between President GRANT and Secretary BRISTOW. The rascals are at the end of their tether.

THE number of new buildings erected in New York last year was 1,356, costing $18,-065,770, against 1,364 structures, costing $16,786,077 for 1874. The mortgage record is not given.

ON NO consideration whatever should the National Republican Convention be held at Washington. No convention to nominate a President ought ever to be held there while Congress is in session.

THERE is a reviving activity in the export grain trade to Europe. Since Saturday upward of a quarter of a million bushels of wheat have been taken at New York for British markets, and more than two hundred thousand bushels of corn. Flour, also, is more brisk.

THE generosity of Southern Congressmen is without parallel. One of them proposes to strike from the Alabama claims act the clause which prohibits the court from awarding money to claimants "who did not at all times bear true allegiance to the United States."

THE coinage of the several United States mints for last month was the largest for some time, amounting in value to $3,844,-765. The increase is especially marked in subsidiary silver coinage. The amount of fractional silver coin now in the mints and Treasury is about $11,000,000.

A RELIGIOUS paper suggests, as the embodiment of its theories upon the financial question, the comprehensive text, "Thou shalt not steal." Good, as far as it goes; and if to this be added the Apostolic injunction, "Owe no man anything," this financial creed will be as complete as it is short.

MASSACHUSETTS is attaining a very unenviable criminal notoriety. Crime has almost doubled in that State within the past ten years. In 1865 there were about 1,900 criminals confined in the penitentiaries, now there are nearly 5,000. The rate of crime is some 33 per cent. higher than it is in Ireland.

THE clerk of the Committee of Ways and Means, who gave the name JOHN WILKES BOOTH to a son born a few days after the assassination of President LINCOLN, is the holder of a two hundred thousand dollar cotton claim against the Treasury Department. He should be bounced without benefit of clergy.

THE ex-Treasurer of Buffalo, who used $400,000 of the city's money, is spoken of by the meaty-mouthed papers as a "defaulter." If he had stolen but four dollars he would have been called a thief; and why not when he has stolen four hundred thousand? We shall have no relief from this defaulting mania until we learn to treat all such offenders as malefactors.

THE indications are that the Southern influence will soon be favorably felt on the early spring trade. According to the New York papers, merchants who have been selling largely to the South within the past six and nine months, report collections in most sections of that quarter. There have been few or no failures of late. The people generally have more money than they have had at any time since the war.

THE talk of the Columbia (S. C.) *Herald*, Governor CHAMBERLAIN'S organ, to the effect that there is a probability that that State will go Democratic at the election of next fall, is mere poppycock. The colored voters are very largely in the ascendancy there, and they have sense enough to know that the question of voting the Republican ticket, and the question of political self-preservation, are synonymous.

IT IS shameful and inexplicable that England, which abounds with charitable institutions of various kinds, should yet lack a haven for the shelter of sick and starving authors. One of the brightest *literateurs* of that county—DALTON—the author of some of the best and healthiest books of adventure for boys, died recently in one of those most wretched of all wretched places, a London "casual ward," breathing the contamination of a polluted herd of tramps.

THE New York *Bulletin* prints a table of statistics of pork-packing from the commencement of the season up to January 6, showing a considerable increase in all of the principal points, as compared with the same period of last year. The aggregate is 1,975,000, against 2,430,005 last year. There are reports, however, to the effect that the returns thus far given do not fully show the total packing, as certain parties have made under statements, merely for speculative purposes.

THE latest proposed plan for supervising the improvement of Western rivers is for the President to appoint a commission of seven, three engineers from the army, one from the coast survey and one from civil life, with a Mississippi river pilot and steamboat captain, the commission to have entire charge of the planning and execution of all river improvements, so that there may be conformity in the work. General HUMPHREYS, Chief of the United States Engineer Corps, is said to look favorably on it.

SOME such reform as that embraced in the bill introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. MCCRARY, of Iowa, to reorganize the judiciary of the United States, is greatly needed. He proposes a plan by which both the Circuit and Supreme Courts can be relieved without creating new offices, and yet the right of appeal be preserved. The business of the Supreme Court is fully two years in arrears, and is constantly increasing. There are over eight hundred cases upon the docket now awaiting consideration.

"BABCOCK is known to be in a very nervous state of mind about his trial.—*Boston Herald.*

No wonder. For a member of the President's household to join a conspiracy to rob the revenues of the Government is much like the robbery of a charity-box by a clergyman. It is simply monstrous. We shall not believe him guilty until his collusion with the whisky thieves is proved, but we cannot help remembering that whereas, a few years ago, he was very poor, he is now uncommonly glossy and thriving.

THE Democrats in Congress started off in their "investigation" mania like quarter-horses in a scrub race, with heads up and tails fluttering in the breeze. But it is already painfully evident that they lack bottom to keep up the pace. Fears are already hinted that the inquiries which have been begun in the House will result in no advantage to that party. They sadly recall the fact that in 1828, under JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, similar wholesale investigations were made, which resulted only in the discomfiture of the investigators—and sorrowfully remember that history is philosophy teaching by example.

THE Republicans of New Hampshire begin the campaign of 1876 with a clear, ringing declaration against the third term. They say:

Regarding as conclusive the President's declaration that he is not a candidate for renomination, and with profound gratitude for his patriotic services in both military and civil life, we reaffirm our unalterable opposition to the election of any President for a third term.

The President's declaration was not, to our mind, very conclusive; but the conclusiveness of the conclusion of that resolution is unmistakable.

THERE is evidently a growing feeling in Congress in favor of repealing or modifying the Resumption act. Representatives even of the manufacturing districts of New England report that their constituents look with great suspicion on any contraction of the currency, or on any of the measures proposed by Secretary BRISTOW to make the act of last January operative. The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Tribune intimates that several New England hard-money men have come back determined to vote against the legislation asked for by the President and Secretary.

ONE TERM.

Hon. JOHN A. DIX, of New York, in a lecture recently delivered by him, upon "Some of the Political and Social Evils of our Times," took strong ground in favor of one Presidential term of six years, and his advocacy of it strengthens the friends of that measure, inasmuch as it shows that the thoughtful men of the nation are aware of the necessity which exists for an amendment of the Constitution to that effect.

It may take some time to familiarize the public mind with all the aspects of this question; but there is little room for doubt that when it is fully considered, the verdict of the people will be nearly unanimous. It would be a good thing if the amendment could be passed at once, and submitted by Congress to the several States for their approval; but whether it is or not, its ultimate adoption is certain. There is so much to be said in its favor, and so little that can be said against it, that its final success may be regarded as a matter of course.

The wise men who framed the Constitution were not far-sighted enough to foresee the immense patronage that would grow up under Presidential control, and the almost unlimited power given by its possession. If they could have foreseen it they would undoubtedly have limited the Presidency to one term; but as they did not, it behooves those who have followed them to supply the omission and so guard against the possibility of a perpetuation of power in the hands of one man, which is only one step removed from the establishment of a monarchy.

GLADSTONE is credited with the aphorism that the way to elevate the working class is by keeping your children in it. The aphorism might be varied, and yet be as truthful, by making it say that the way to elevate your children is to make workers of them. The elevation of the individual will elevate the class to which he belongs.

Much of the wrong-headedness of this age is attributable to the silly prejudice against work. The young farmers crowd to the cities to become clerks and drudges in the stores; the children of mechanics want to get into the learned professions; and the children of the rich want to live upon the earnings of their parents. All of these seem to shun honest labor as disgraceful and the work of the country is left to those who have not yet learned to shun it.

The way of escape from this atrocious blunder is to teach the children of the rising generation a better lesson; and we know of no plan better than that suggested by GLADSTONE'S truism to elevate labor by teaching it to our children. The odium now attached to labor will thus be removed, and the character of the laboring class will be improved by an infusion of new blood into its veins.

In England, and in all countries where class distinctions are kept up, labor belongs exclusively to the lowest classes, and it is a degradation for any one socially above those classes either to work or to know how to work. The increasing intelligence of the age has doubtless made many clear-sighted men ashamed of this state of things, and suggested the elevation of the laboring class as the remedy for it; but how is it to be elevated? GLADSTONE solves this problem by saying, "Elevate the working class by keeping your children in it;" which is equivalent to saying, "obliterate all class lines so far as work is concerned."

We have, in this country, no permanent class discriminations, and our laws know nothing of their existence; but we have not been slow to import from Europe the hatred of labor which grows out of such distinctions. It is time we were getting rid of it; and if a natural, born aristocrat like GLADSTONE can see the only way of escape from such a folly, surely a republican people can afford to follow it. Work is ennobling, if viewed properly; and in the constant mutations of our continually shifting society, which change the rich into a poor one in the twinkling of an eye, the ability to work is his surest resource in the hour of his supremest distress.

DIRECT issue is taken with us by a correspondent with regard to our expression or doubt whether "any solid and permanent intellectual gain" would result to the people of this country from a lecturing tour by Professor HUXLEY, the great materialistic scientist of England. We stand by what we said. We dispute neither the ability nor the sincerity of the man. He is one of the strongest thinkers in the scientific camp; and his claim, as the claim of our correspondent, for perfect freedom of opinion, is willingly conceded. This, indeed, has been made by the true reformers of all ages. Nevertheless the fact remains that Prof. HUXLEY'S doctrines, and those of the school of which he is so distinguished a representative, are narrow and one-sided. The least to which they invite the world is one of mere dry husks. They stand in hostility, not to the religious world alone, but also to that inward idealism without which life is almost meaningless. To them, man is a mere automaton; the Deity a nightmare of the dark ages, and the universe a phenomenal appartition to be automatically solved. Still they have the most absolute conviction of their own infallibility, and regard with "philosophic" pity and tolerance all who refuse to adopt the scientific method, so-called. We believe that the intellectual movement of the American mind is far more hopeful and true in aim than that of the English, and we reiterate our previously expressed opinion that the purely negative philosophy of Professor HUXLEY would completely fail to afford satisfaction, here.

AND now Herr STAMM declares that Austria must have protection to home manufactures against England, in order to give them more stamina. M. LAVELEYE, also, a distinguished Belgian political economist, has just astonished his free trade friends by a renunciation of the doctrines of their economic school. Italy, too, is following suit, the Manchester *Guardian* complaining that "the Italian Government is endeavoring to impose a tariff so highly protective in its terms that one is almost led to wonder whether the Italian people are not forgetting their own history;" while the London *Economist* describes the Italian prospect "as a complete return to the protectionist system." Germany is moving in the same course, the current in the direction of increased protection having now set more strongly than at any time in the past. Turkish statesmen even, according to the *Levant Herald*, are awakening to the fact that to the absence of protection has been due the present ruinous condition of the country, and that without a total change of policy no improvement can be looked for; while Russia, after having for a time modified her protective system, has since returned to it with renewed energy, and now stands among the foremost of protective nations. Australia, moreover, becomes from year to year more earnest in her adherence to a protective policy, and the day approaches when Canada must inevitably follow in the same road. Such is the universal conviction of the positive and absolute failure of free trade.

THERE is an ominous feeling of anxiety in England regarding the course of European events in the near future. A plan for defense against an invading army has lately been prepared, under which the country is divided into eight districts, to each of which a corps of 36,228 men, with 10,585 horses, 1,410 carriages, and ninety guns, is allotted. These eight corps, with the permanent garrisons, will number nearly 300,000 effective soldiers. The rendezvous of each corps is connected by rail and wire with those of the rest, and each can be brought within a few hours to any point on the coast. It is thought that such a force thus concentrated will be strong enough to prevent the landing of an enemy of invasion anywhere. The taxpayers, however, look aghast upon the enormous expense which the execution of the plan must necessarily, even in time of peace, entail. But it is not to be doubted that, while the voice and hearty wish of the English people is for peace, yet if the emergency should arise, they would respond to the occasion with all their old spirit. The power that forces war upon Great Britain may possibly have cause to rue its temerity, for it must not be forgotten that over a million of her sons have passed through the ranks of her volunteers, and that she counts more marksmen in her population than any other European nation.

NOTWITHSTANDING the eloquent and conclusive denial of the widow of General GEORGE H. THOMAS that during any period of the rebellion he wavered in his fealty to the national flag, we find the cruel slander that he was not [illegible]

posed to the secession movement still going the rounds of the Democratic press. The fact is that, from the beginning, he pronounced the rebellion a mighty crime; and he contributed quite as much as any other military leader, both by precept and example, to its overthrow; for he never lost a battle, and at Nashville the rebel army was so completely crushed as never afterwards to appear as an organization in arms. So pronounced, indeed, was General THOMAS in his opposition to treason that, when reproached by his family for his adherence to the Union cause, his answer was that, unless they could write him more loyal letters, the correspondence must cease, and it did cease until the termination of the war. Nay, his family carried their bitterness to him so far as to refuse to surrender him the sword which Virginia presented to him for his brilliant services during the Mexican war, and he died without receiving it. It is worse than idle to talk of the disloyalty of such a man.

OUT of a batch of over 500 bills thus far offered in the House of Representatives at Washington, 156 are for the relief of Southern claimants, who ask for an appropriation of about ten dollars for every one that they lost by the war. The Commission heretofore appointed to examine into Southern claims report to the President that "the amount claimed in eleven cases was $255,629, of which $39,908 33 only was allowed and $215,721 64 disallowed. Adding the first-named sum to the amounts stated in the fifth general report, the whole amount of claims disposed of during last year was $4,051,974 70; amount allowed, $532,510 50, and disallowed, $3,519,464 20." Even at this low rate—one dollar or every eight claimed—the President, in his annual message, complains that the Commission has been altogether too liberal in its allowances, which we think probable. The House of Representatives may prove more kind to the claimants than the Commission has; but, if it serves them right, it will rule them all out and create a court for them, in which they can be heard judicially. If the House cuts down the army and navy, and reduces the appropriations generally, only for the purpose of lavishing what is so saved upon these hungry Southern leeches, it will create a current of corruption wider and deeper than has ever yet swept through the halls of Congress.

CONGRESSMAN WHITE, of Kentucky, is so anxious to "economize" in the collection of the taxes on spirits distilled in out-of-the-way places, that he has introduced a bill directing the Commissioner of Internal Revenue to discharge all storekeepers for distilleries having an average daily capacity of less than ten wine-gallons; and that he require the gaugers attendant upon all hand-mash copper distilleries having an average daily capacity of less than ten wine-gallons to collect a special tax of not less than $25 nor more than $100, according to the capacity of the distillery, for each six months, or fraction of it, such hand-mash copper distilleries may operate. Such a relaxation of vigilance on the part of the Government would open the door for uncounted frauds in the mountainous districts of Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina and Alabama, whose illicit distilling is already a thing of considerable magnitude. It would also wrench the Southern market from the distillers of Illinois, Kentucky, Ohio and this State, who have large capital invested and a heavy trade in the South. The object of the proposition is, apparently, to enable these reckless mountaineers to get a fuller swing at illicit distilling.

IN THE paper trade, in hardware, leather and many other branches, there is a disposition to try what virtue there may be in the new remedy of relieving our markets of a surplus of production by exporting abroad. A regular export business in domestic cotton goods is looked upon by some as already established. The statistics of this trade for last year show that 11,008 bales and cases were sent out of the country, the heaviest item being 11,205 bales for China; while Great Britain is our next best customer, having taken 1,892 packages of brown and bleached cottons. Brazil and other parts of South America are next in importance as consumers. The aggregate is nearly double the amount for the year 1874. These statements possess additional interest when considered in connection with the fact that the quantity of cotton manufactured in the Northern States last year was in excess of all estimates, more cotton having been used by our spinners than in any previous year. If we can compete successfully in foreign markets, or can reasonably hope to by further economies, the problem is solved.

GENERAL MILES, of the United States Army, who was charged with the duty of investigating the late Indian disturbances in New Mexico, and the condition and necessities of the Jicarilla Apaches and Muache Utes, has returned from his mission to Fort Leavenworth, and, according to the Leavenworth *Times*, is very positively of opinion that these Indians have been driven to the extremities of mismanagement and of the unscrupulous avarice of contractors, and that the recent disturbances and acts of hostility were really due to these causes. General MILES has made the Indian problem a study for years, and by his investigations, as well as by his extentive experience on the frontier, is as well prepared to give an opinion upon this subject as any other man in the United States; hence his expressions upon the matter deserve careful consideration. He regards the present Indian policy as a mistake throughout, amounting simply to this: that one branch of the Government is continually arming the Indians, while another branch is fighting them.

DR. SAMUEL G. HOWE, of Boston, who died in that city on Sunday, was one of the most eminent philanthropists of modern years. The struggle for Greek independence drew him to that country in 1824, which he reached shortly before the fatal illness of Lord BYRON, between whom and himself a warm friendship arose. Dr. HOWE served in the Greek army for six years, when he returned to Boston and devoted himself to the establishment of State institutions for the training of the Idiotic and Blind. He was one of the active leaders in the anti-slavery movement, and also one of the most confidential friends of old JOHN BROWN. During the war of the rebellion he engaged earnestly in the sanitary movement in behalf of the Union soldiers. He was not an agent of party, but of humanity. His walk in life was like the steps of the traveler in new-fallen snow; it left a clear imprint, but no stain. The country has lost in him an honor and defense, and afflicted humanity a loving and loved comforter and friend.

THE United States District Court of St. Louis has just rendered a decision on a point in patent law which, it being the first of its kind, will naturally furnish an important precedent. Under the patent laws, wherever there are two patents covering the same invention, any person interested in any one of them may have relief against the interfering patentee by suit in equity against the owners of the interfering patent, and the court in such case may adjudge either of the patents void in whole or in part. This was the provision under which two Missourians brought counter actions against each other, both owning patents for the same improvement in preparing brick. It was proved, however, that the same invention had been in public use before either of the parties to the suit made his invention, and the court accordingly declared both patents void and invalid, holding that the statute, by authorizing a court to adjudge either patent invalid, vested the power to decree both void.

THE Governor of Kentucky, in his annual message, makes a loud call for emigration, and depicts in a glowing manner the various advantages and inducements offered by that State to settlers from abroad. It is not likely, however, that there will be any general response to his invitation so long as the barbarism indicated by the last report of the State Superintendent of Education continues to prevail there. The report says:

"At least one-third, and probably more, of the Kentucky children never attend school. They reach maturity to swell the sad spectacle of bookless homes, of purchasable voters, of shiftless poverty and unblushing crime. They entail additional burdens upon wealth in defraying the expenses of good government, they swell the census of prisons and alms-houses, and furnish the material with which blushless demagogues debauch the franchises of citizenship. In a country where every man is a sovereign, it is appalling when we reflect that now one-third of the entire voting population of Kentucky cannot read the ticket they vote."

THE new device of TWEED'S lawyers of suing the city and county of New York, the Attorney General, the corporation counsel, KEYSER, GARVEY, CONNOLLY, INGERSOLL and other parties, on the ground that notwithstanding the avowals of the latter named persons that they participated in the alleged fraudulent acts, no action has been commenced against them or their associates in endeavoring to obtain a restitution of the property taken, is in effect a demand for damages on the part of TWEED, because these officials allowed his stealings to go on. We shouldn't be surprised to learn, presently, that the infamous thief had brought suit against the Mayor and corporation for slandering him—unless, indeed, the people of New York should in the meantime take a notion that endurance of this sort of colossal insolence had ceased to be a virtue.

THE iron trade of England, by which so many other industries are affected, is in even a more deplorable state than our own, and without as yet the faintest prospect of recovery. According to the London correspondent of the New York *Times*, the manufacture of rails has practically ceased in the North of England, none having been shipped from that district during November and December, while the competition of pig iron makers is of the most desperate kind. A curious attempt was lately made by the London and Northwestern Company to set up as a manufacturer of rolling stock for sale to other companies, but it has been stopped by the Government, which has decided that a railway corporation must stick to its own business, and must not make or repair rolling stock for other companies, though it may for itself.

THE official statement of the foreign exports of domestic products from Philadelphia last year, as published in the papers of that city, shows an increase in value of $2,057,816 over the total of the year previous, the aggregate shipments being $31,-936,727, of which $12,289,114 were in American vessels, and $19,647,613 in foreign ones. The exports of petroleum were 64,-104,300 gallons, of which 56, 112,341 gallons were refined, 6,497,845 crude, and 2,494,114 naphtha. The export of wheat was 3,392,034 bushels; corn, 4,601,586 bushels; wheat flour, 160,748 barrels; cotton, 13,551,977 pounds; bacon and hams, 22,813,666 pounds; beef, 12,473,786 pounds; lard, 14,056,634 pounds, and cheese 2,440,550 pound4. The foreign exports from Baltimore during the same period fell off $389,815, as compared with 1874.

EVERYWHERE, and at all times, like effects spring from like causes. Just fifty years ago the civilized world was visited by a wave of general commercial depression precisely resembling that from which this country, in common with others, is suffering now. The cause, also, was of a similar character, it being the reaction which followed the Napoleonic wars. For twenty-five years Great Britain had been stimulated by an immense expenditure, and the mechanic and tradesman flourished, while the nation was rapidly rolling up an enormous debt. The reaction after the general peace was gradual, and did not reach its full extent until ten years had elapsed. This is exactly our present experience.

THE Chicago *Tribune* of Sunday contains a lengthy but very interesting account of a number of valuable experiments in telegraphy, made in Milwaukee last Saturday, demonstrating publicly, for the first time, that eight messages may be transmitted simultaneously over a single wire, and affording good grounds for believing the number that may be so transmitted is practically limited only by the possibilities of sound. A public experiment was made between Boston and New York some months ago, with four wires, and was a success. This was the first public demonstration with eight wires. The tests were every way successful, establishing beyond question the triumphant success of the system.

THE returns from the savings banks of Massachusetts for last year show that there has been a handsome gain in the deposits, and that a smaller amount has been drawn out than in either of the two previous years. The following is the exhibit:

	Banks.	Total deposits for year.	Deposits for year.	Withdrawals for year.
1873	175	$ 202,195,000	$ 58,846,000	$ 50,848,000
1874	179	217,482,000	57,611,000	49,696,000
1875	180	238,397,000	59,930,000	46,996,000

The deposits average $340 each, there being about 700,000 depositors.

BARNUM, the philosophic showman, lectured in New York the other day on "The World, and How to Live in it." We make he following homely and sensible extract, which deserves to be read and pondered everywhere:

"The only real economy is to regulate the outgo to the income, so that the latter shall be greater than the former, and every year we shall be worth more than the preceding one. The real comforts of life cost but little, if it be the aim of each to suit his own eyes, that rule us; it is the fear that Mrs. Grundy shall have something to say that governs us. The real wants cost little or no comparison to the purse, but it is this outside show that is so unfortunate for Americans. 'Pay as you go' is the philosopher's stone, nearer than any alchemist can get it."

ACCORDING to the representations of an "old miner" who has just returned to Kansas from the Black Hills, there are at the present time from a thousand to twelve hundred men in the Hills prospecting and digging; and although the troops still occupy the territory, they do not molest the miners. The latter have strong hopes that by spring the soldiers will be withdrawn, leaving the entire field open to settlers. He is exceedingly enthusiastic, and declares there is no country on earth so rich in minerals, and possessed of such fine farming and grazing lands as that section. It is not stated how much he was paid for making his roseate report, nor by whom.

HERE is a suggestive little extract from one of the letters of JOHN ADAMS, written a hundred years ago, embraced in CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS' recently published collection of the familiar letters of the great Revolutionary statesman and his wife. It points a notable moral even in our day of rejoicing in the liberties which ADAMS and his compeers fashioned and founded:

"There is not a sin which prevails more universally, and has prevailed longer, than prodigality in furniture, equipage, apparel and diet. And I believe that this vice, this sin, has as large a share in drawing down the judgments of Heaven as any."

A STORY was recently started to the effect that General GEORGE H. THOMAS, a native of Virginia, was a Democrat of the States' rights order, and at the opening of the civil war was inclined to go with his State in the struggle, and even applied for a position in the rebel army, but was saved to the Union service through the influence of his Northern wife. The charge is now completely refuted by that lady in a published letter which leaves no doubt whatever concerning the matter. There is no spot on the disk of THOMAS, the sublimest hero of the war. He never faltered and he never failed.

"TENNESSEE wants the interest on Government securities reduced, so as to compel investments in that State."—*Exchange.*

Exactly. The credit of Tennessee is at the lowest ebb, and something must be done soon, or it will be irrevocably ruined. Two boys once went out in a boat, when the thing commenced sinking. "JIM, can you pray?" said one. "NO," said Jim; "can't you?" "Yes, a little." "Well, then," said JIM, "get at it, and pray deuced fast, for I tell you something has got to be done quick!"

A MARVELLOUS piece of mechanism has just been exhibited in Paris. It is an eight-day clock, which chimes the quarters, plays sixteen tunes, playing three tunes every twelve hours, or at any intervals required. The hands go round as follows: one once a minute; one once an hour; one once a week; one once a month; one once a year. It shows the moon's age, the rising and setting of the sun, the time of high and low water, half ebb and half flood, and there is a curious contrivance to represent the water, which rises and falls, lifting some ships at high-water tide as if they were in motion, and, as it recedes, leaving them dry on the sands. The clock shows the hour of the day, the day of the week, the day of the month, the month of the year, and in the day of the month provision is made for the long and the short months. It shows the signs of the zodiac; it strikes or not and chimes or not, as may be desired; and it has an equation table, showing the difference between the clock and the sun for every day in the year.

Furnace No. 5 (20-foot bosh) at Johnstown, Pa., is gradually approaching completion, and will go into blast about September 1, 1876. She will be the model furnace of America, embodying all the latest improvements—many of them being of original design. She will be run on Bessemer iron exclusively. The buildings are all of the most substantial kind, and are arranged with a view to architectural beauty, as well as convenience of arrangement.

The "Gray's" on Deck Again.

(From the Washington Chronicle.)

[As I was passing through the corridors in the basement of the Capitol on the day after the reassembling of Congress I saw a large crowd of men standing near the House postoffice, whose gesticulations and almost frenzied conduct, accompanied by shouts of "The Gray's on deck again," fully satisfied me that the Confederates were in luck. I afterwards ascertained that the postmaster, who had been re-elected by the Democratic caucus, was an ex-Confederate Captain, and that all of his subordinates were of the same kidney.—*Extract from Colonel James Keegan's letter to the New York Sunday Democrat.*]

Why, bless my heart, say, look hyar Jim.
When did you git to town?
Dog'on it I ain't glad, old boy,
To see you; come, sit down,
And we'll have a talk of the ole, ole time,
And of the battles not fought in vain:
For the tide has turned, the Yanks are ruined,
And the Gray's on deck again.

It's many a day since we last met
In the trench near the old mud fort,
Where we ofttimes piled the Yanks up high
In the morn, after a good night's sport.
Yes, they scooped us in at the end, I know,
Though it went against our grain;
But the tide has turned, the Yanks are ruined,
And the Gray's on deck again.

What do you think I see'd this morn.
As I walked down the avenue,
But old Ben Stimms—you know him well—
He war captain of gun number two;
And he said as how we were fixed. By Jing!
You oughter heerd him proclaim
How he got the possih of a one-armed Yank,
For the Gray's on deck again.

Yes, Congress is bound for to fix them now,
And to teach them a lesson or two.
We're going to get back the niggers they stole
With the army of boys in blue.
Then we'll shout hurrah! for the Southern star,
And the land of the cotton and the cane,
For our y'ar of jubilo has come,
And the Gray's on deck again.

COLONEL JAMES FRANCIS KEEGAN.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Winter at last; but will it last?

The first railway in China is about to be built.

A Reformed Episcopal church is to be established in Boston.

The real estate sales in Chicago during the past year foot up $53,000,000.

Twenty-five newspapers suspended, and four new ones were started last week.

The real danger to be feared by religion is not from knowledge, but from ignorance.

Richmond, Va., is growing steadily and solidly. It now claims a population of 72,-500.

The average brain is one-fifth heavier now than three centuries ago. Newspapers did it.

It is sweet to reflect that American refineries are now supplying Canada with sugar.

Oakey Hall won the proud distinction of being the shortest lived dramatic star on record.

Boston is going to introduce a new sewerage system at a cost of six and a half millions of dollars.

There are strong indications of heavy produce shipments from the West during the next few weeks.

Our leather exports to Europe last year served to keep stocks down and prevented a large decline in price.

The receipts of the New York city street railroads, sixteen in number, foot up over $8,000,000 for last year.

It is thought that Fechter will lose his leg. This will cost him his standing in the leg-itimate dramatic profession.

A change has come over the spirit of the dream of the weather, and the festive Granger no longer chases a-field the frisky plow.

That Michigan ship canal project is magnificent. There are but two things lacking to make it practical, money and plenty of water.

The number of vessels belonging to or trading with ports in the United States reported totally lost last year was 373, valued at $7,622,000.

Development. Fifteen years ago the business of Kansas City amounted in round numbers to $3,000,000. Last year it aggregated $455,832,018.

All the ports of entry in the Western and Southern States whose collections do not pay the expenses of maintaining them should be abolished.

The New York *Commercial Advertiser* thinks, with regard to that big soap defalcation, there must be considerable lye out somewhere. Sud' we.

Georgetown wants to be retroceded to Maryland, on the ground that it is damaged rather than benefited by being a part of the District of Columbia.

Minnesota proposes to redeem herself from the stigma of repudiation by taking action looking to the payment of her old railroad bond indebtedness.

The building business of Philadelphia has been greatly stimulated by the prospective demand for accommodations in connection with the Centennial.

A question with marrow in it. If American beef can be shipped to England and sold at twelve cents a pound, why cannot it be bought at the same price here?

A conscientious Boston poultry dealer, who had two tons of chickens which the recent warm spell had spoiled, squared himself by disposing of them to the restaurant keepers.

Pretty safe. Of forty-two million passengers carried over the Massachusetts railroads last year, not one was killed except by their own carelessness, and only six were injured.

An order was recently executed in New York for Sir William Armstrong, of English gun notoriety, for an enormous leather belt, one hundred feet in length by four and a half broad.

There has grown up within a few weeks past quite a demand for American fertilizers for England, and merchants are sending on large orders for supplies for the spring crops.

The New York station houses are crowded nightly. Such is the pressure of misfortune that these wretched abodes are now sought by many who have been brought up in refined society.

Congressman Seelye's statement that there is quite a number of colored American young men in the *College de Propaganda* at Rome, which was denied by Catholic authority, is vouched for by those who know, as being absolutely true.

Last year the Bethlehem Iron Company and the Cambria Iron Company commenced to make spiegeleisen from Spanish ores. It is now stated that the Cambria Iron Company, and possibly other companies, will make spiegeleisen this year from our own ores.

PERSONAL.

A rich man. The Paterson, New Jersey, *Press* says that the father of Messrs. Robert and Thomas Barbour, of that city, who recently died in Belfast, Ireland, left the bulk of his property, estimated at four or five million pounds sterling, to his oldest son, Robert.

A correspondent of the *National Baptist* tells a romantic story of a young man named Randall, formerly a resident of New York, who was captured in Syria by the Druses, and compelled to marry a girl, who has converted her and others of the tribe to the Christian faith.

It is now stated that Col. Sam Colt, of Hartford, was the man who conceived the idea of a submarine electric telegraph wire cable, and was the first to test, put into practical use, produce a successful result and show its practical utility, from which point Morse and others went on from step to step to greater perfection.

His name is Patrick Kane, and he belongs in New York, and when brought before a justice the other day, for habitually beating his wife, he didn't deny the count, but pleaded that he had inflicted the injuries on account of no dislike to her, but simply to "get square" with her relations, who opposed his marriage.

It was a good ovation that Jimmy Blanchard, *nee* Charlie Ross, got when he arrived at Milford on Friday. The streets were crowded, and his weeping mother clasped the little liar to her bosom, and promised not to whip him. He dropped a tear or two himself, but, on the whole, was comfortably happy, especially as his St. Albans keeper, Mr. Rugg, wants to adopt him.

A curious case of sudden loss of speech and as suddenly recovering it is reported at Woonsocket, R. I. Twenty years ago a man named Luke was struck dumb, and was at the same time so troubled in his respiration that even in winter he had to sit in a cold room. A week ago he suddenly felt a change, and, after two decades of silence, he began to talk. His articulation, of course, is imperfect, but is improving.

After the death of Minister Avery, the Chinese Foreign Office, which is composed of the high and trusted officers of the Empire, sent to his widow an elaborate silken scroll to be hung in the halls of mourning. The inscription on this scroll, embalmed with Celestial art, is to the effect that "two continents, the Occident and Orient, mourn for the loss of one who spoke right and right and was ever active in the right."

Allentown, Pa., has thirty segar factories, which turn out monthly 300,000. She is the third largest manufacturer of segars in the United States, New York being first and Detroit second.

OUR STATE COMMON SCHOOLS

Unparalleled Growth of the System.

Nine Hundred Thousand Pupils Taught in Seventeen Thousand Schools.

Total Cost Nearly $10,000,000—Threatened Dangers Discussed—Getting Ready for the Conflict—The Superintendent's Platform—The Bible in the Schools, Etc.

Hon. J. P. Wickersham, Superintendent of Public Instruction, has submitted his report to Governor Hartranft, for the last school year, in which he says that "the rapidity of the growth of the system, within the last few years, has been almost without a parallel in the history of this or any other country; and that its results have become so productive of good to society, and its propetuity so essential to the prosperity of the State; as to make it an object worthy the generous support of the Legislature, and a source of just pride to every patriotic Pennsylvanian."

GENERAL STATEMENT.

The following statement will give a general view of the school system at the close of the year:

Number of school districts	2,089
Number of schools	17,092
Number of graded schools	5,625
Number of school directors	13,925
Number of superintendents	87
Number of teachers	19,880
Average monthly salaries, males	$ 41 07
Average monthly salaries, females	$ 34 09
Average length of school terms in months	6.85
Number of pupils	880,073
Average number of pupils	551,848
Percentage of attendance upon the whole number registered	.62
Average cost of tuition per month for each pupil	.92
Cost of tuition for the year	$ 4,746,575 52
Cost of building, purchases and renting school houses	2,059,464 83
Cost of fuel, contingencies, debt and interest paid	2,448,315 78
Total cost for tuition, building, fuel and contingencies	$ 9,254,656 13
Total cost, including expenditures of all kinds	9,363,927 07
Total State appropriations	1,000,000 00
Estimated value of school property	24,300,789 00

To the $9,363,927 07 named above there should be added $77,324 32, increased expenditure in the city of Pittsburgh, not included in the summary; $5,815 84 expended for normal schools, and $423,693 6 expended in support of the soldiers' orphan schools, to obtain the full sum of $9,950,760 99, expended for all school purposes during the year 1875.

COMPARATIVE CHANGES.

The changes in the most important items of our school statistics, as compared with last year, are as follows:

Increase in number of districts	18
Increase in number of schools	450
Increase in number of graded schools	20
Increase in number of school districts	75
Increase in number of teachers	553
Increase in the average salary of male teachers per month	$1 88
Decrease in the average salary of female teachers per month	1 78
Increase in average length of school terms	2-3 day
Increase in number of pupils	20,299
Increase in average number of pupils	5,822
Increase in cost of tuition	$219,567 49
Increase in cost of buildings, fuel, contingencies, &c.	297,158 76
Increase in cost of expenditures of all kinds	541,941 62

DECREASE IN SALARIES.

The superintendent says: "The only discouraging item in this statement is the decrease in teachers' salaries, occasioned by the prevailing stringency in financial affairs. The fact, however, that the expenditures for school purposes during the past year were more than a half a million of dollars greater than ever before aboundantly proves that our people are willing to support their schools, liberally, notwithstanding the hard times. The increase in the length of terms, in the number of pupils in the schools and in the average attendance of pupils is very gratifying."

EDUCATIONAL GROWTH OF THE STATE.

The following table shows the educational growth of the State for the past decade:

Table showing the educational growth in the past ten years.

Year.	Number of schools.	Number of graded schools.	Number of superintendents.	Average salary of male teachers per month.	Average salary of female teachers per month.	Cost of tuition.	Cost of school houses.	Cost of fuel, incidental expenses of all kinds.	Number of teachers employed.	Number of pupils attended County Institutes.
1866	8,435	1,000	67	$ 43 00	$ 30 00	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	10,000	500,000
1867	8,435	1,000	67	$ 43 00	$ 30 00	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	10,000	500,000
1868	8,435	1,000	67	$ 43 00	$ 30 00	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	10,000	500,000
1869	8,435	1,000	67	$ 43 00	$ 30 00	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	10,000	500,000
1870	8,435	1,000	67	$ 43 00	$ 30 00	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	10,000	500,000
1871	8,435	1,000	67	$ 43 00	$ 30 00	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	10,000	500,000
1872	8,435	1,000	67	$ 43 00	$ 30 00	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	10,000	500,000
1873	8,435	1,000